

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING NICHOLAS GIGLIO FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Nicholas Giglio, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 98, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Nicholas has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Nicholas has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Nicholas Giglio for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE HOYT'S

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to two of my most accomplished and most inspiring constituents. Dick Hoyt, of Holland, Massachusetts, and his son Rick, are a world famous pair, known around the world for their frequent appearances at road races, marathons, and triathlons. They are not, however, average athletes.

In 1962 Rick Hoyt was born with his umbilical cord wrapped around his neck. Doctors told Rick's parents, Dick and Judy, that their son would be unable to live on his own and that he should be institutionalized. They refused.

Instead, the Hoyts did all that they could to enroll Rick in public school with other children his age. Their first major breakthrough came when a group of engineers from Tufts University built, in 1972, an interactive computer that enabled Rick to communicate. His first words took his family by surprise. They learned that he had been following the Stanley Cup finals along with the rest of his family when he said, "Go Bruins."

From that moment forward, Rick was unstoppable. He was admitted to public school in 1975, and 2 years after that, asked his father to enter their first race together: a five mile benefit run for another local athlete who had been paralyzed in an accident. Dick says that he remembers Rick telling him that night that he did not feel handicapped when they were competing together.

They completed their first marathon, in 1981 in Boston. Four years later, they competed in a triathlon, for which Dick had to not only learn how to swim, but then do so in the race with a small boat tied to his waist with which he pulled Rick.

While continuing to race, Rick also furthered his education. In 1993, Rick graduated from Boston University with a degree in Special Education.

Today the Hoyts have completed 206 triathlons, 20 Duathlons, 64 marathons, and over 500 other races. They have biked across New England and America. Their best time for a marathon, running together with Dick pushing Rick, is 2 hours and 40 minutes, only 35 minutes short of the world record holder who, of course, was not pushing another person while running. This past year they competed in their twenty-fifth Boston Marathon. I personally have run the SIDS Road Race in Springfield, Massachusetts, with the Hoyts many times including this past fall.

Truly, the Hoyt's story is one of a deep love and commitment between father and son, and is one that speaks to all of us. They have won awards from organizations around the world, and regularly receive letters from others whose lives they have touched. Dick Hoyt and his son Rick are truly two of the most remarkable people I have the honor of calling friends, and I am proud to be able to pay tribute to them here on the Floor of the House of Representatives.

SUPPORTING THE NEOTROPICAL MIGRATORY BIRD CONSERVATION IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2006

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Improvement Act of 2006, introduced by my friend from Wisconsin, Mr. KIND. I was one of the coauthors of the original Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act in 2000, and I am very pleased to see this new legislation make its way through the process again. This has been a highly successful program, and its reauthorization will help to continue this record of success.

The hundreds of species of birds that migrate through our Nation every year are facing urgent threats. Warblers, plovers, and kites were once common, but many species are now listed as endangered or are dwindling rapidly and will soon approach that point. The Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act has greatly helped the effort to protect these creatures here and in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Like the other multinational species conservation programs including the Great Apes Conservation Act—whose reauthorization is

still pending—the Migratory Bird program has done an excellent job of matching public funds with private donations. In fact, this program has brought in more than \$60 million in private sector funds to protect and restore habitat, to study species declines, to provide technical assistance, and to encourage public-private and international partnerships.

Mr. KIND's legislation will enable the Interior Department to continue providing this much-needed funding to conservation efforts both in the United States and throughout the Americas. He has done an excellent job shepherding this bill through the House, and I am hopeful that the Act will soon be reauthorized.

HONORING TOYOTA MOTOR'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY IN GEORGETOWN, KENTUCKY

HON. BEN CHANDLER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mr. CHANDLER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate Georgetown, Kentucky, and Toyota for their successful 20-year partnership that has resulted in significant opportunities for Georgetown residents and substantial growth for Toyota.

The benefits to Kentucky cannot be overstated. Toyota is among the top employers in the Commonwealth, with 7,000 jobs in Georgetown alone. That total does not include the many spin-off benefits in terms of economic development from the many suppliers and partners that have started operations in the vicinity of Georgetown. Kentucky benefits from the thousands of secure, well-paying jobs our citizens can be proud to go to every day. Supporting economic development is one of my most important jobs in Congress. It strengthens families and communities, and it makes possible all the promise America has to offer—education, reliable health care, a better home, and safe, stable communities. We are fortunate to have Toyota help provide that environment.

Toyota, also, has thrived during this 20-year period, thanks to its hard-working, dedicated team in Kentucky. Its Georgetown operation now produces a half million cars a year, far more than what was projected when it opened. During that time, Toyota has become one of the top manufacturers of cars, in terms of number and quality, and we in Kentucky are proud that those cars are American-made.

Toyota has given back to Kentucky in so many ways. It is deeply involved in our civic life. Toyota provides jobs for Kentucky residents, but it also supports our schools and youth programs for the next generation. Toyota generates significant tax revenue for Kentucky and our cities and counties, but it also participates in our community activities, sharing its resources and the time and talents of its employees.

And Toyota foresees even more opportunity in Kentucky. I am pleased that it has selected

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Georgetown as the first site in the United States to produce hybrid vehicles. Toyota perhaps sees this as a wise investment in a potentially rewarding market. I and many in Kentucky see it as an entry into a cutting-edge technology that will continue our leading role in the U.S. auto industry, and we hope eventually provide an alternative for Americans saddled with ever-increasing gas prices.

This is a happy occasion for Toyota, for Kentucky, and for me personally. I hope to see many more such occasions over the coming years as Toyota and Kentucky continue to expand their relationship.

RECOGNIZING THE LIBERTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute the efforts of the Liberty School District, the Council of Parent Teacher Associations, the Parent Teacher Student Associations, students, faculty and staff in their ongoing efforts to support a national project known as Book Relief. Book Relief is an unprecedented, publishing industry-wide effort that will distribute at least five million new books to schools and libraries displaced and destroyed by the 2005 hurricanes. These books will help to replenish school libraries as they rebuild.

In New Orleans, 118 of 126 schools sustained damage; in Mississippi, 300 schools were damaged, 24 of them severely damaged or destroyed. Nearly 190,000 Louisiana students were displaced. As organizations start to rebuild the Gulf Coast, Book Relief will be there to supply them with new books as they reopen.

For every fifty cents raised by Liberty schools, one book will be contributed to the cause. Each school in the district has been actively participating in not only Book Relief, but also Hurricane Katrina relief. Liberty Schools have raised a collective \$33,600 to go toward relief efforts. This accomplishment is nothing short of outstanding.

Liberty, Missouri has a rich history of great accomplishments in their school system. Today, I am proud to celebrate and recognize the continued dedication to community, both at home and in the Gulf Coast, of the Liberty School District and its network of staff, students and parents. Their work is truly a shining example of the great works happening in public education today.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 17, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 376) establishing the congressional budget for the United States Govern-

ment for fiscal year 2007 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2008 through 2011:

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to the Republican Budget Resolution.

Today, this Congress has the opportunity to send a clear message of hope for a better future to American families by investing in critical programs that enhance our children's ability to go to college, protect our public health against diseases and epidemics, and protect our public safety from gang violence and terrorist attacks.

Regrettably, the Republican leadership has chosen to squander this opportunity in order to make way for additional tax breaks for the wealthiest Americans.

The negative impact of this unnecessary and misguided budget is that programs essential to the safety, health and well-being of American families are cut and even eliminated.

Please permit me to cite examples that illustrate my point.

First, this Republican Budget Resolution sacrifices services vital to women and families by eliminating the funding for the National Resource Center on Workplace Responses. This Center was included in last year's reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). It provides critical support to help employees who are victims of domestic violence maintain job security as they empower themselves to end the violence in their lives. It also provides employers with valuable information and expertise needed to make their workplace safe from abusers who often stalk their victims at the workplace.

Second, this Budget Resolution eliminates the funding for the National Institutes of Health's crucial National Children's Study. This study is examining the effects of environmental influences on the health and development of our nation's children. When completed, this national study could answer critical questions that will enable us to more effectively protect our children's health and future well-being.

By eliminating this important program, the Republican budget once again chooses giving tax breaks to the wealthiest individuals in America at the expense of our children.

Third, this budget resolution jeopardizes the future of millions of America's children by recommending the elimination of 42 education programs designed to provide our Nation's disadvantaged and middle-income children with the opportunities for a better and more fulfilling life.

Some of the programs the Republican budget proposes to eliminate are the Even Start program, which promotes family literacy in low-income areas; the School Drop-out Prevention Program, which helps at-risk children stay in school; and the Education Technology Block Grant, which integrates technology into the classroom to help students and teachers succeed in today's 21st Century workforce.

Once again, in order to pay for the \$70 billion tax cut primarily for the wealthy, this Republican budget strips away the safety net needed to protect the future of our children who must be prepared to compete in our ever-growing and highly technical global economy.

I urge my colleagues to put the future of our children and our country first and vote against this misguided Republican Budget Resolution.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF PEACE OFFICERS ME- MORIAL DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2006

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to say thank you to the 850,000 police officers who go to work in our communities each day, and to pay tribute to the more than 17,000 who have made the ultimate sacrifice, and whose names are inscribed on the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial.

As a former officer with the Michigan State Police and Escanaba City Police Department, as well as founder and co-chair of the Law Enforcement Caucus, I am proud to be a co-sponsor of this resolution, and I want to thank Congressman HEFLEY for introducing it again this year.

Everyday, our Nation's police officers face danger and uncertainty in order to keep us safe. There are 56,000 assaults against law enforcement officers each year; and last year, 155 peace officers were killed in the line of duty, including five from my own state of Michigan. They leave behind husbands, wives, parents, and children, who supported them and believed in their work, and who now need and deserve our support.

I want to take a moment to thank organizations like Concerns of Police Survivors and Thin Blue Line that work to help give a voice and a helping hand to the families of officers who are killed. These compassionate organizations help to remind us that the law enforcement community goes beyond those who wear the uniform to include the families who share the risks that come with a career in police work. The ceremonies of this past weekend are for them, to commemorate their commitment and their sacrifice, and to let them know that their Nation shares their loss and that their loved ones did not die in vain.

I also think that we need to go beyond the usual gestures to offer the families of fallen officers real, material support. We need to fully fund critical law enforcement programs like the Byrne Grant program, which was named for a fallen officer and which has helped to provide vital funding for organizations like Thin Blue Line. This program has been under attack by the administration in recent years, and I call on my colleagues to show the families and officers gathered here this week that we mean to support them with our resources as well as our words.

In addition, I am especially proud to have introduced a piece of legislation that will provide health insurance coverage to the survivors of public safety officers who are killed in the line of duty. This bill, H.R. 4424, has been endorsed by leading national law enforcement organizations, and will help to relieve the financial strain on police survivors in the wake of the most traumatic possible loss. I think this legislation is an example of the kind of practical support that we can provide to law enforcement officers and their families, and I hope to see it move forward in the coming year.

After September 11, this Congress seemed to recognize the heroic nature of the work that our law enforcement officers do, and the importance of supporting them fully. However, I

am concerned that we have begun to lose sight of our priorities in recent years. Funding for essential programs like COPS has been declining, and even highly successful programs like the Byrne Grant are being threatened with elimination. I believe that we need to go back to the model that helped to radically reduce crime across this country in the Clinton years: funding to put cops on the streets, support for successful local programs, and federal commitment to initiatives, like communications interoperability, that help to make our first responders more effective.

This week should serve as a chance for us to renew our commitment to the men and women of the law enforcement community. Today, we have the chance to honor them with our words, through the excellent resolution that Mr. HEFLEY has introduced. For the rest of the year, let's make sure that we are honoring and supporting them through our priorities and our actions. It is the least we can do for the officers and families who do so much for us every day.

THE 65TH ANNIVERSARY OF JACKSON MEMORIAL TEMPLE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Jackson Memorial Temple Church of God in Christ as it celebrates 65 years of fellowship and worship in my hometown of Flint Michigan. Jackson Memorial will commemorate this event with two days of festivities on August 12 and 13.

Founded in December 1941 by Reverend Leo J. Jackson as the Pilgrim Temple Church of God in Christ, the first services were held on the same day Pearl Harbor was bombed. After Reverend Jackson passed away the church was re-named in his memory. Bishop H. J. Williams is the current pastor and along with First Lady, Mother Iola Williams, he provides the leadership, inspiration and example of a life in Christ to the congregation and community.

Dedicating their lives to Jesus Christ, the congregation is pledged to the following beliefs: That there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. In the Blessed Hope, which is the Rapture of the Church of God, which is in Christ, at His return. That the only means of being cleansed from sin is through repentance and faith in the precious blood of Jesus Christ. That regeneration by the Holy Ghost is absolutely essential for personal salvation. That the redemptive work of Christ on the cross provides healing for the human body, in answer to believing in prayer. That the baptism in the Holy Ghost according to Acts 2:4 is given to believers who ask for it. In the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit, by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a holy and separated life in this present world.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Jackson Memorial Temple Church of God in Christ as it celebrates their 65th anniversary. I commend them for 65 years of joyful

service to the community and pray they will continue to provide spiritual guidance to the residents of Flint for many years to come.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 17, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 376) establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2007 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2008 through 2011:

Mrs. SCHWARTZ of Pennsylvania. Mr. Chairman, this chamber is in the final stages of the annual budget process—a process that provides an important opportunity to discuss the things we value as a Nation.

Before we cast our votes, each of us should consider the following:

1. Does the Republican budget value fiscal discipline and honest budgeting? And, did the Republican leadership make the tough choices needed to balance the budget and pay down the debt?

No. The Republican budget continues the majority party's borrow-and-spend policies. As a result, it not only fails to balance the Federal government's checkbook, but will actually run a deficit of \$348 billion for 2007—further increasing the mounting debt being, passed onto our children and grandchildren.

2. Does the Republican budget value our shared economic future? And, did the Republican majority make wise investments in education, workforce development and alternative fuels that will favorably position us in the highly competitive global marketplace?

No. The Republican budget cuts education funding by \$2.2 billion, reduces support for renewable energy and energy-efficiency initiatives, and impedes access to health care for women and children.

3. Does the Republican budget value enhanced security at home and a strong defense? And, did the Republican majority provide for the men and women who protect us, both while they are on the front lines and after they have fulfilled their duties and return home?

No. The Republican budget cuts funding for veterans' health care by \$6 billion, and will reduce our ability to maintain current homeland security efforts due to a lack of consistent and reliable funding.

4. Is the Republican budget based on sound, fair tax policies to recognize the priorities of everyday Americans?

No. The Republican budget has one purpose: to provide tax cuts to the wealthiest Americans. In fact, this budget provides \$228 billion in new tax cuts—90 percent of which will go to the wealthiest ten percent of taxpayers.

This budget fails to meet sound fiscal principles, and it sets us on an irresponsible path for years to come—with mounting annual deficits, and an increasing national debt. In fact,

the Republican majority went to great lengths to mask the fact that their spending plan does not include some of our Nation's largest financial commitments—commitments that we must meet.

Their plan almost completely ignores the cost of ongoing military operations in Afghanistan and Iraq, which according to the Congressional Budget Office will be at least \$298 over 10 years. Except for a one year fix, it does nothing to address the Alternative Minimum Tax, which will increase taxes for middle class families by an estimated \$844 billion over the next ten years.

Even with these cuts, omissions, and gimmicks, the majority's budget will add another \$2.3 trillion to our national debt by 2011—or nearly \$1 million of debt per minute. Under President Bush, and his Republican Congress, our Nation has incurred more debt than it did under the 42 presidents before him.

But there is a better way.

As a member of the House Budget Committee, I assisted Ranking Member SPRATT in the creation of a fiscal year 2007 budget that makes the necessary tough, fiscally disciplined choice. This Democratic alternative meets the basic budgetary principles of meeting our obligations, working within the resources we have, and making smart investments that will ensure the Nation's current and future fiscal well-being.

The Democratic budget will put our nation back on the right track by closing tax loopholes that provide incentives to companies to ship jobs overseas, by cracking down on tax cheats that avoid paying nearly \$350 billion a year in taxes, by rescinding the tax breaks and subsidies for the oil and gas industry, and by rolling back Medicare overpayments to HMOs. We would then reinvest these savings in the priorities that matter to most Americans: national and homeland security, energy independence, education, and health care. And, it will do so while balancing the Federal Government's budget within 6 years, and begin to pay down the debt by 2013.

Our plan would secure our homeland through investments in our military and defense networks. Our plan would ensure that we are prepared here at home, while also pursuing smart foreign policies that encourage stability in nations throughout the world. And, our plan would meet our obligations to the men and women who have fought to protect our Nation.

Second, our plan would help secure our economic future by educating our children for the twenty-first century economy, promoting the development and innovation of small businesses, upholding environmental protections, and advancing the production of alternative sources of energy to end our dependence on foreign oil.

And, third, our plan would expand access to affordable health care for all Americans and improve retirement security with particular attention to the dramatic and costly needs of the baby boomers who will begin to reach retirement in 2007.

Mr. Chairman, I believe that we have a responsibility to meet our obligations and balance the budget. I am also well aware that the Federal Government's budgets have consequences. If the majority's budget passes, it will hurt State and local budgets by forcing them to cover the shortfalls—likely through increased local taxes. If the majority's budget

passes, small businesses will be on their own as they fight to compete in the global marketplace in the face of rising health care and energy costs. If the majority's budget passes, senior citizens will risk losing the benefits they have been promised.

Unless we change course, the negative consequences of the Republican budget will be felt by every American.

My colleagues, Americans are seeking to meet their obligations to their families, their communities and to the Nation. We must honor their commitment and we should not, and I cannot walk away from our obligations to them. Vote "no" on this irresponsible Republican budget, and support the Democratic alternative.

REMEMBERING A.M. 'ABE'
ROSENTHAL

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, last week the Nation lost a giant in the field of journalism when A.M. "Abe" Rosenthal passed away at age 84.

He was a Pulitzer Prize-winning foreign correspondent and executive editor of the New York Times. After his days directing the newsroom were over, he penned the op-ed column, "On My Mind," for the Times and later the New York Daily News, a forum from which he championed the cause of freedom and human rights.

As Nicholas Kristof, who won a Pulitzer Prize last month as a Times op-ed columnist, said at Mr. Rosenthal's funeral, Abe Rosenthal used his column to make matters like human rights violations in China and Sudan "recognizable as issues."

"Abe fought to cure our blind spots, and it worked," Mr. Kristof said. "He did indeed teach us to see."

Mr. Speaker, I insert for the RECORD an obituary from The Washington Post and an op-ed column by Mr. Rosenthal's son Andrew, a New York Times deputy editorial page editor, remembering Abe Rosenthal.

[From the New York Times, May 17, 2006]

I NEVER WROTE FOR MY FATHER

(By Andrew Rosenthal)

Funerals have a way of reframing memories. After the burial of my father, A. M. Rosenthal, who ran The Times for nearly 20 years and wrote a column for 13 more, I recalled the day I met President George H. W. Bush, not long after I became a White House correspondent.

I was allowed to sit in on an interview that two of my colleagues, Maureen Dowd and Thomas L. Friedman, were doing for a magazine article. The White House told me not to ask questions, but after a while, Mr. Bush said to me, "You've been quiet." I said the interview was supposed to be strictly about the magazine article, but as long as he'd asked, what did he think about the latest development on Lithuania?

He was angry and would not answer. He said he was "not gonna be sandbagged in the Oval Office."

On the way out, Marlin Fitzwater, Mr. Bush's spokesman, helpfully noted that my introduction to Mr. Bush had gone badly. He explained that Mr. Bush was unhappy with my father for writing in his column that Mr.

Bush had appeased the Communists on China and (oh, great!) on Lithuania. "The president doesn't differentiate between you and your father," he said.

I sputtered that the White House owed me for five years' psychotherapy. I'd only just begun convincing myself I was my own man in my father's field, and now I learned that The Leader of the Free World could not tell us apart?

It was naïve, of course, to think I could hide that little coincidence of a last name. Dad was not just seen as the embodiment of The Times; he saw himself that way. During the tumultuous year 1968, my father said I could not wear an Army fatigue jacket because anti-Vietnam protesters wore them. "When you go out," he said, not for the first or last time, "you're representing The Times." I was 12 years old at the time.

Still, I tried to walk around as if I were not really Abe's son, first at The Associated Press, where I was a national and foreign correspondent for nine years, and then at The Times. (I even left the middle initial, M., out of my byline because my father's initials were so famous.)

I started to get the point that hiding in plain sight was not working when I noticed that I hadn't received any checks from WQXR, the Times radio station, for a weekly radio spot. It turns out that WQXR was sending the \$70 checks to A. M. Rosenthal, instead of Andrew Rosenthal.

I called my father, outraged. He had been happily cashing the checks. He said he hadn't known why WQXR was paying him, but "when someone gives me a check, baby, I cash it."

I should have found the whole thing funny, but I didn't. Then about a year later, I got a check for a reprint of my father's classic 1958 essay, "There Is No News From Auschwitz." I sent him a copy of the check stub with a note: "When someone gives me a check, baby, I cash it."

Dad thought it was hilarious. And I've long since realized that I overreacted on the "Abe's kid" front. But since my father died, I've realized something else.

When I read his obituary to my children, their amazement at his accomplishments was matched by my amazement at how much I had forgotten, even discounted. Then colleagues began sharing their experiences of my father.

They said what I knew, that he could be stubborn, unreasonable and prone to anger. But what they held on to was how sure he was in his vision for the paper, how filled with exuberance and a certainty about journalism that he freely bestowed. I received dozens of stories about how he'd shaped a reporter's career, how he'd traveled around the world to get a correspondent out of trouble, how he'd stood up equally to K.G.B. generals and to U.S. officials, how he'd helped young people become better journalists, how he'd changed The Times and the newspaper business.

Jose Lopez, a photographer and photo editor, said the first time they met, Abe Rosenthal told him, "Always be the hawk; never be the blackbird that sits on the wire."

David Sanger said when he'd been a news clerk laboring to become a reporter, he'd come to his desk one day to find Champagne and a note: "For an explanation, see the executive editor." Abe had promoted David, and wanted to celebrate with him.

"I wouldn't argue that he was always the easiest boss," David wrote. But, he said, my father "knew how to infuse you with his sheer joy of reporting and experiencing the world."

Alan Cowell recalled how Abe Rosenthal flew to South Africa in 1986 to argue the authorities out of expelling him. John Burns,

whose courage is endless, said Abe "set the trajectory of my life." Maureen Dowd reminded me that her mother had kept letters from my father framed in her home until the day she died.

In an era when journalism is commoditized, digitized and endlessly televised, I feel the loss of that passion, drive, emotion and energy. I also feel regret—not for sometimes pushing my father away as I tried to be independent. I know I was right to wait until he'd retired as executive editor before joining The Times.

But I missed something big.
I never got to work for Abe.

[From washingtonpost.com, May 11, 2006]

NEW YORK TIMES EDITOR A.M. 'ABE'

ROSENTHAL

(By J.Y. Smith)

A.M. "Abe" Rosenthal, 84, a Pulitzer Prize-winning foreign correspondent who became chief editor of the New York Times and played a key role in modernizing the Gray Lady of American journalism for the new century, died May 10 at Mount Sinai medical center in Manhattan. He had a major stroke two weeks ago.

Mr. Rosenthal's career at the Times spanned 55 years, from 1944, when he began as a cub reporter, to 1999, when he retired as the writer of "On My Mind," a column on the op-ed page. When he left the Times, he took his column to the New York Daily News and continued there until 2004.

In 2002, President Bush conferred on him the Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor, along with Katharine Graham, the late chairwoman of The Washington Post Co.

A passionate, driven man, Mr. Rosenthal was ruthless in his pursuit of perfection as he saw it and was never entirely satisfied with his own work or that of others. He was a brilliant and visceral judge of the news. He had boundless curiosity about the world. He often viewed it with a sense of outrage—at tyranny, at all forms of injustice and exploitation, at stupidity, incompetence and "unfairness."

His first big break came in 1946, when he got a two-week assignment to cover the United Nations. He stayed on the beat for eight years. His first foreign assignment was India, where he was posted in 1954. He later worked in Poland and Japan, but India retained a special fascination for him. He once traveled 1,500 rugged miles to have a dateline that read "At the Khyber Pass."

In 1958, he moved to Poland and the next year was expelled by the government for delving too deeply into its affairs. In 1960, he was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for international reporting for his dispatches from Poland. A story he wrote after visiting the site of the Nazi death camp at Auschwitz-Birkenau in southern Poland has become a classic of journalism.

"The most terrible thing of all, somehow, was that at Brzezinka (the Polish name for Birkenau) the sun was bright and warm, the rows of graceful poplars were lovely to look upon and on the grass near the gates children played," he wrote.

"And so there is no news to report from Auschwitz. There is merely the compulsion to write something about it, a compulsion that grows out of a restless feeling that to have visited Auschwitz and then turned away without having said or written anything would be a most grievous act of discourtesy to those who died there."

In 1963, Mr. Rosenthal was summoned to New York from Tokyo to become metropolitan editor. By 1969, he had become managing editor, and in 1977 he was named executive editor. For 17 years, until 1987, when he became an op-ed columnist, he was responsible for the news operation at the Times.

(The editorial page at the Times and at some other papers, including The Washington Post, is run by an entirely separate hierarchy that reports directly to the publisher. It is a distinction that remains extremely important to papers where the division is maintained.)

As a manager, Mr. Rosenthal was said to be abrasive and self-centered. A diminutive, bespectacled figure, he had a volcanic temper. Many found him intimidating. He advanced the careers of many journalists and derailed the careers of others. He was a constant source of friction and controversy in the Times newsroom. Admirers and critics spoke of him with equal fervor.

Arthur Gelb, a friend of Mr. Rosenthal's who also was the Times's managing editor, once offered this explanation of the Rosenthal character: "In every field, in every art, if you talk to an artist who has a very keen mind, you will find they are very restless. Anyone who is truly creative has a restlessness and natural impatience with others."

There was never any question about Mr. Rosenthal's impact on the Times. He insisted on good writing and sent his reporters on stories that often were ignored by other publications—and might have been missed by the Times except for his guidance.

He expanded coverage in every direction. The religion page, for example, became a venue for discussion of broad theological and philosophical questions rather than a summary of sermons.

Reader-friendly stories and features were added and given prominent display. New emphasis was placed on covering sports and the city itself. The daily paper went from two sections to four. The business report became a separate section. SportsMonday, Weekend and Science Times sections were published on different days of the week. Coverage of topics such as food and the arts was expanded.

At a time when many newspapers in New York and elsewhere in the country were losing readers, the Times's circulation increased and its financial health improved dramatically, due to its expanding national and regional editions.

Notable stories that Mr. Rosenthal assigned included the case of Kitty Genovese, who was fatally stabbed in her quiet Queens neighborhood. What had started as a brief crime report became a lengthy examination of why 38 people heard her screams for help without helping her or even calling police.

Mr. Rosenthal wrote a book about the incident, "Thirty-Eight Witnesses," in which he raised this question: "What was the apathy of the people of Austin Street compared, let's say, with the apathy of non-Nazi Germans toward Jews?"

Another memorable story Mr. Rosenthal ordered was about Daniel Burros, 28, the blond and blue-eyed leader of the Ku Klux Klan in New York and the No. 2 man in the American Nazi Party, headed by George Lincoln Rockwell.

After the Times wrote about Burros, Mr. Rosenthal got a tip from a friend that Burros was Jewish and had celebrated his bar mitzvah. When a reporter confronted Burros about his past, he said he would kill himself if it was publicized. The next day, the Times carried the story on the front page, and the next night, Burros committed suicide.

The Times was widely criticized, but Mr. Rosenthal expressed no regrets.

"He was who he was, he did what he did, and I no more would feel guilty of saying that a certain person robbed a bank," Mr. Rosenthal told an interviewer. "Was I happy that he killed himself? Of course not. I did not feel that we had done anything but the appropriate thing. It was he who was misappropriating his life, both in what he was

doing and how he chose to end it. There were other ways he could have ended it—he could have quit!"

In 1971, Mr. Rosenthal played an important role in the Times's publication of the Pentagon Papers, a landmark event in the history of journalism. The papers detailed 25 years of U.S. involvement and deception in Vietnam. The archive of several thousand pages was classified as secret, and the management of the Times expected the government to object to the project.

Mr. Rosenthal, by then the managing editor, put his credibility and career on the line by marshaling the arguments to go ahead anyway. He was supported by then-publisher Arthur Ochs Sulzberger.

On the second day of a planned multipart series, the Justice Department went to court to block publication. There followed two weeks of frantic litigation in courts in New York and Washington and an expedited appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court, in which the Times was joined by The Washington Post. In the end, a divided court affirmed the First Amendment right of the newspapers to bring the information to their readers.

Mr. Rosenthal regarded his greatest contribution to the Times as his effort to keep the news report "straight." By that he meant free of bias and editorializing on the part of reporters.

"I used to tell new reporters: The Times is far more flexible in writing styles than you might think, so don't button up your vest and go all stiff on us," he wrote in his farewell column for the Times. "But when it comes to the foundation—fairness—don't fool around with it, or we will come down on you."

Mr. Rosenthal gave up the executive editorship of the Times at the end of 1986 and was succeeded by Max Frankel. His first column on the op-ed page appeared Jan. 6, 1987. His last column for the paper was published Nov. 5, 1999.

As a columnist, Mr. Rosenthal's subjects ranged from the evils of the drug trade—"helping make criminals and destroying young minds"—to all forms of political, ethnic and religious repression, from China and Tibet to Africa, Europe and the Americas. He had a special interest in the security of Israel and made regular visits to the country.

Abraham Michael Rosenthal was born in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, the fifth child and only son of Harry and Sara Rosenthal. His father was born Harry Shpiatski in Byelorussia (today's Belarus) but took the name Rosenthal from an uncle in London on his way to Canada in 1903.

He was a trapper and fur trader before moving the family to New York in the early 1930s and settling in the Bronx, where he became a house painter. He died of injuries suffered in a fall from a scaffold when his son was 12.

As a teenager, Mr. Rosenthal lost his four sisters to various illnesses. He contracted osteomyelitis, a bone disease, and used a cane or crutches. He regained his mobility after being taken in by the Mayo Clinic as a charity patient.

He attended what was then called City College of New York. Although tuition was free, he used to say, it was more than he could afford. He worked on the school newspaper and was a stringer for the New York Herald Tribune. When the Times stringer at the college was drafted for World War II service in 1943, he took his job. He became a full-time reporter in 1944.

He became a U.S. citizen in 1951. He kept a plaque marking the occasion on his office wall.

His marriage to Ann Marie Burke Rosenthal ended in divorce.

Survivors include his wife of 18 years, the writer Shirley Lord Rosenthal, who lives in Manhattan; three sons from his first marriage, Jonathan Rosenthal of Clifton, Daniel Rosenthal of Milford, N.J., and Andrew Rosenthal, a New York Times deputy editorial page editor who lives in Montclair, N.J.; a sister; and four grandchildren.

UTB'S GRAVITATIONAL WAVE DISCOVERY

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share with the House a monumental discovery made by scientists in my district that will make it easier for space scientists to map black holes in space. This breathtaking discovery on gravitational waves was made by researchers at the University of Texas at Brownsville, and allows scientists—for the first time—to study the warping of space and time produced by colliding black holes.

Now, I'm no rocket scientist—but UTB's gravitational wave studies universal breakthrough will give researchers and other space scientists greater insight into one of the most cataclysmic astrophysical events predicted by Einstein's theory of general relativity, the merger of two black holes. Given that most of us are not scientists, let me just say that this remarkable discovery will guide astrophysicists as they learn more about the origin and history of the supermassive black holes which reside at the core of most galaxies, including our own Milky Way.

Black hole merger models are always challenging to build due to their unique and unknown nature. Black holes in space are regions where gravity is so intense that nothing, including light itself, can evade their pull. Because their mergers generate a remarkably strong burst of gravitational waves when they approach and collide, lasting for years at a time, they affect both space and time by producing ripples in the curved geometry of the universe.

This shift in the concept Einstein defined as "spacetime" has proven to be a difficult task for computer simulations to execute or follow. Yet UTB scientists M. Campanelli, C.O. Lousto and Y. Zlochower devised a novel technique for properly representing black holes during such collisions, which is why UTB's breakthrough is an epic contribution in the study of our universe.

This extraordinary discovery will enable scientists to verify Einstein's famed theory of general relativity—and specifically his theory of spacetime curvature. Results from this discovery will prepare the NASA/European Space Agency's 2015 gravitational wave mission, which aims to detect the gravitational waves produced from supermassive black hole collisions, also considered the most potent source of energy in the universe.

Physicists at UTB's Center for Gravitational Wave Astronomy have made exceptional progress in their field through this development, which is a reflection of their extensive dedication and sheer creativity. Through such efforts, they are establishing south Texas as a force in space science issues and as a leader in innovation.

Several groups have attempted to reach a solution to the computational complications involved in gravitational wave detection, leaving most researchers predicting that this elusive discovery would be incremental, through an arduous series of small improvements. UTB scientists, however, have contradicted this belief with their out-of-the-box thinking and relentless perseverance.

Despite a lack of equipment and economic resources, UTB scientists utilized the least sophisticated computer systems and relied on their stellar ingenuity to achieve a revolutionary breakthrough, the sort that comes along between every 10–50 years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in applauding a group of intellectuals whose vision and brilliance are truly ahead of their time. These south Texans have inspired us today and changed the way our world will see the future.

THANK YOU HERRERA
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank the Fifth Grade students of Herrera Elementary which is in my Congressional District for coming to visit us last week on their class field trip.

They came to Washington on their Fifth Grade class trip to learn about our Government and the history of our country. During their 5-day visit, they managed to visit Mt. Vernon and learn about George Washington and what it was like during the colonial era.

They toured several museums in the Smithsonian. The Museum of American History, the Air and Space Museum and the National Museum of the American Indian were all favorites of the students.

On their last full day in Washington, I met with the students of Herrera Elementary during their lunch break. No one knew that one of their most memorable experiences was yet to come.

On our way to the Capitol steps to take a picture, an ABC news crew approached us to ask us if we knew the words to the national anthem. The students and I sang the national anthem on the Capitol steps and the students made it onto ABC's Nightline.

The Students of Herrera Elementary did a great job when they sang the national anthem. They knew all the words and did not miss a note. This was also impressive because the news story on the national anthem stemmed from the controversy over a Spanish version of the national anthem.

Almost all the students from Herrera Elementary are Hispanic and all of them sang the national anthem perfectly in English. They proved that patriotism lives in people of all ages and all nationalities.

Again, I thank Principal Hector Rodriguez and the teachers and parents of Herrera Elementary for making the 5th Grade class trip possible. I especially thank the 5th Grade students for visiting our office and making their visit memorable by singing the national anthem on the steps of the Capitol.

THE BREAST CANCER AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH ACT

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to stand with the National Breast Cancer Coalition (NBCC) and the three million women living with breast cancer in the country today and urge all my colleagues to push for passage of the Breast Cancer and Environmental Research Act (H.R. 2231) by the end of this year.

The bill authorizes \$30 million a year for five years to establish multi-institutional, multidisciplinary centers. The centers would include institutions with different areas of expertise working together to look at different aspects of the issue. Furthermore, this bill would create a new mechanism for environmental health research, and provide a unique process by which up to eight research centers are developed to study environmental factors and their impact on breast cancer. Modeled after the DOD Breast Cancer Research Program, which has been so successful, it would include consumer advocates in the peer review and programmatic review process.

This federal commitment is critical for the overall, national strategy and the long-term research investments needed to discover the environmental causes of breast cancer, so that we can prevent it, treat it more effectively, and cure it. It is generally believed that the environment plays some role in the development of breast cancer, but the extent of that role is not understood. More research needs to be done to determine the impact of the environment on breast cancer, which has been understudied in the past.

Fewer than 30 percent of breast cancers are explained by known risk factors; however, there is little consensus in the scientific community on how the environment impacts breast cancer. Studies have explored the effect of isolated environmental factors such as diet, pesticides, and electromagnetic fields, but in most cases there is no conclusive evidence. Furthermore, there are many other factors that are suspected to play a role but have not been fully studied. These could provide valuable in understanding the causes of breast cancer and could lead to prevention strategies.

We need to enact this bill this year, and I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this bill and bring it to the House Floor for a vote.

REAUTHORIZATION OF THE OLDER AMERICANS ACT

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I introduced the following amendment to H.R. 5293 on May 17, 2006 and made the following statement afterward.

Page 22, after line 12, insert the following (and make such technical and conforming changes as may be appropriate):

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(f) In addition to sums authorized by subsections (a) and (b) to be appropriated, there are authorized to be appropriated to pay expenses for fuel used to carry out parts B and C—

“(1) for fiscal year 2007, \$26,800,000 multiplied by the average price of a barrel of oil for 2006 as reported by the Energy Information Administration, divided by the average price of a barrel of oil as reported by the Energy Information Administration for 2005;

“(2) for fiscal year 2008, the amount authorized for 2007 for fuel multiplied by the average price of a barrel of oil for 2007 as reported by the Energy Information Administration, divided by the average price of a barrel of oil as reported by the Energy Information Administration for 2006;

“(3) for fiscal year 2009, the amount authorized for 2008 for fuel multiplied by the average price of a barrel of oil for 2008 as reported by the Energy Information Administration, divided by the average price of a barrel of oil as reported by the Energy Information Administration for 2007;

“(4) for fiscal year 2010, the amount authorized for 2009 for fuel multiplied by the average price of a barrel of oil for 2009 as reported by the Energy Information Administration, divided by the average price of a barrel of oil as reported by the Energy Information Administration for 2008.; and

“(5) for fiscal year 2011, the amount authorized for 2010 for fuel multiplied by the average price of a barrel of oil for 2010 as reported by the Energy Information Administration, divided by the average price of a barrel of oil as reported by the Energy Information Administration for 2009.”.

On May 17, 2006, I introduced an amendment in the House Education and the Workforce Committee, of which I am a member, to H.R. 5293, the Senior Independence Act. The bill reauthorizes the Older Americans Act. My amendment would help provide relief for Administrations on Aging and thousands of volunteers nationwide from being squeezed by the rising cost of gas. It provides a non-binding formula for calculating annual increases in fuel costs for the three Older Americans Act programs that are the most heavily dependent on transportation. These programs include the in-home nutrition services, the congregate nutrition services, and the supportive services that provide rides to doctor's appointments, trips to the grocery store and to senior centers, among other services. Sadly, the amendment was defeated along party lines by a vote of 23–21.

It is plain to see why these programs have been so successful and so important to seniors. As Americans age, the mobility decreases. Consistent with the intent of the Older Americans Act, these services help seniors maintain independence, dignity and health. In FY2003, the Supportive Services gave almost 36 million rides and provided 20 million hours of personal care, homemaker and chore services. In that same year, 248 million meals were served. Fifty-seven percent were provided in the home with the remainder in group settings. Each meal required transportation.

According to the Energy Information Administration, the price of gas the week ending on Christmas of the year 2000 was one dollar, sixty cents. The price for the week of May 15, 2006 was three dollars, fifteen cents. In other words, since the Older Americans Act was last reauthorized, gas prices have doubled.

We know that when the elements of our lives on which we rely go up in the price, the effect is highly regressive. Those with lower incomes pay a higher percentage of their income for the essentials of life than their

high-income counterparts. The effect is particularly pronounced when we consider people with fixed incomes like seniors. Almost a third of America's aged are low-income.

High gas prices also affect the programs like the meal and transportation services.

First, programs have to cut back services. For example, in testimony before the Senate Special Committee on Aging last June, Donna Harvey, the executive Director of the Hawkeye Valley Area Agency on Aging in Iowa told of having to eliminate transportation services "for all 'non-essential' trips such as family visits, general shopping, trips to the workplace, and other social activities" because of rising fuel costs.

Second, as with so many other provisions in the Older Americans Act, the meal and supportive services programs are heavily dependent on volunteers. Many of the drivers are called the "young-old"—those who are independently mobile but are still on a senior's fixed income. A significant portion of these volunteers get reimbursed based on rates that precede the gas price hikes because the Administrations on Aging can't afford to keep pace. It is easy to see why we are losing drivers. They are taking the brunt of the gas price increases and are forced to curtail their generosity.

Finally, as those seniors living at the financial margins who cannot afford the inflated cost of gas lose their independence, they rely more heavily on services like those provided by the Administrations on Aging through the Older Americans Act.

At the same time that prices have gone up, funding has gone down. Supportive services has not even been flat funded since FY02, going down six million dollars. The same is true for congregate meals—their funding has decreased by five million dollars since FY02. And funding for home delivered meals has increased by only five million dollars, failing to come close to keeping pace with inflation.

We must do what we can to make sure our mothers, fathers, siblings and grandparents are not losing the services they need to help them lead independent, dignified, healthy lives because of gas prices. My amendment holds harmless from rising gasoline prices the congregate and in-home nutrition services as well as the supportive services. It does this by authorizing a yearly adjustment to the fuel component of their budgets. If the price of crude oil rises year after year, then the agencies' fuel budgets will rise a proportionate amount. If oil prices fall, fuel budgets fall in step as well. I urge my colleagues to vote for it.

**HONORING TOP COPS AWARDEES
DETECTIVE BRIAN FENNELLY &
DETECTIVE ROBERT ZIELINSKI**

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to rise today to congratulate and honor two outstanding police officers, detectives Brian Fennelly and Robert Zielinski for the recognition they received last week by the National Association of Police Officers (NAPO).

On May 12, 2006 Detectives Fennelly and Zielinski, officers with the Morton Grove Police Department, were awarded NAPO's "Top Cops" award for their heroic service in the line of duty. On January 21, 2005, with the assistance of Chicago Police Sergeant Richard J. Plotke (also awarded a Top Cops honor) the

officers tracked down two suspects who had forcefully entered a home in Morton Grove and held hostage, robbed and brutalized the woman residing at that property.

While attempting to serve a warrant at the suspects' apartment, all three officers came under heavy gunfire. Despite the violent onslaught, and injuries sustained during the suspects' violent attack, the three officers relied on their skills and training to successfully disarm and render the assailants harmless.

By successfully tracking down those dangerous criminals, putting themselves in the line of fire and ultimately disarming the assailants, Detectives Brian Fennelly and Robert Zielinski (and Sergeant Plotke) prevented the serious threat posed to their fellow law enforcement professionals and to the entire community. Their heroic demonstration of bravery, team work and public service certainly makes them Top Cops in my book and in the eyes of their peers.

On behalf of the entire 9th Congressional District and along with Morton Grove's Police Chief, Paul Tasch, Jr. and Mayor, Richard Krier, I want to commend and thank our Top Cops Detective Brian Fennelly and Detective Robert Zielinski for their heroic service to our community. I urge all members of the House to recognize their outstanding service and the service of all public safety and law enforcement personnel throughout the country.

**HONORING REVEREND PERRY
SANDERS**

HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Reverend Perry Sanders, a devoted and faithful servant to his God, his church, and his community in Lafayette, Louisiana.

On May 14th, Reverend Sanders gave his last sermon at the First Baptist Church in Lafayette. The day marked the culmination of his 47 years of service to the congregation. Born in South Carolina, Reverend Sanders came to First Baptist in 1959. Following graduation from college and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, Reverend Sanders pastored at several churches in Louisiana before coming to the First Baptist Church in Lafayette. As a young preacher, he made it clear from the beginning that a segregated South would not stop him from preaching to "anybody and everybody" who came to listen. As a result, Lafayette became home to the first Southern white Baptist church to be racially integrated.

During his tenure at First Baptist, Sanders led the church to establish a media ministry that would set the pace for Southern Baptists. The power of the cassette tape was harnessed in the early seventies and his messages have encouraged many in even the most remote parts of the earth. First Baptist was selected as one of the "Great Churches" in a broadcast series in the mid eighties.

Reverend Perry Sanders led First Baptist through remarkable growth, especially considering its location in the Acadian culture with its strong Catholic traditions. From a congregation of a few hundred and a budget of about \$70,000 per year, First Baptist has grown and

now averages more than one thousand worshippers each weekend and owns buildings on six city blocks. Additionally, several hundred thousand dollars a year is given to missions outside the Lafayette community.

Mr. Speaker, our Nation would benefit greatly if we all dedicated our lives to the service Reverend Perry Sanders has exemplified throughout his career. It is with this in mind that I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring him today.

**IN MEMORY OF CHIEF WARRANT
OFFICER ERIC W. TOTTEN**

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Chief Warrant Officer Eric W. Totten, an American hero who lost his life in defense of liberty and freedom. He made the ultimate sacrifice so that others might know freedom, and I am humbled by his bravery and selflessness.

Chief Warrant Officer Eric Totten was killed on May 5, 2006 when his CH-47 Chinook helicopter crashed in Kunar Province, Afghanistan while conducting combat operations. Chief Warrant Officer is survived by his step-mother, Tommie Totten.

Chief Warrant Officer Totten was assigned to Company B, the 3rd Battalion, 10th Aviation Regiment, and 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum, New York. During his service to our Nation, he exemplified the skill, commitment, and passion of a true patriot for freedom's reign. Chief Warrant Officer Totten died accomplishing the task he loved the most—serving his country.

Chief Warrant Officer Totten leaves behind a legacy marked by courage, integrity, and character. May God bless all those he loved, and may I convey to them my sincerest condolences and the gratitude of the American people.

**CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON
THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR
2007**

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 17, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 376) establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2007 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2008 through 2011:

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Chairman, this budget resolution that we are now debating is being sold as a deficit-reduction measure, but that is false advertising. This budget resolution does contain spending cuts—ones that hit lower-income families particularly hard. But those spending cuts pale beside the companion tax reconciliation measure that the President just signed into law. Together, those budget actions add to the deficit; they don't reduce it.

Nothing illustrates that more clearly than the provision in this budget resolution that would increase the federal debt limit for the fifth time under President Bush.

This President and this Congress have squandered the fiscal discipline of the 1990s and created a legacy of deficits and debt that will erode the standard of living of our children and our grandchildren. This is a record-setting Administration, but they are the wrong records. We have seen the federal budget deficit set a record in dollar terms, we have seen the national debt rise to a record level, and we have seen our trade deficit and our indebtedness to the rest of the world rise to a record level.

The President likes to talk about how fast the economy is growing and how successful his policies have been in stimulating an economic recovery from the 2001 recession. But the American people are saying "what economic recovery?" and, "when am I going to see any benefits from this President's economic policies?" Mr. Speaker, we should listen to the American people and we should adopt economic policies that promote the economic well-being of all Americans—not just those at the very top of the economic ladder.

The President's FY 2007 budget and the House budget resolution do not do that. Instead they perpetuate economic policies that have produced a legacy of deficits and debt that leave us unprepared to deal with the budget challenges posed by the retirement of the baby-boom generation and that weakens the future standard of living of our children and grandchildren.

Economic policy over the past 5 years has not served the interest of the typical American family. The resilience of the American economy has allowed it to recover from the 2001 recession, but we are still experiencing the labor market effects of the most protracted jobs slump in decades. Job creation has lagged far behind what is typical in a strong economic recovery, there is still evidence of hidden unemployment, and the benefits of productivity growth have been showing up in the bottom lines of companies rather than in the paychecks of workers. Finally, there is a growing gap between the "haves" and the "have-nots" in this country as income and earnings disparities have widened.

Yes, workers have become more productive—they produce more and more in each hour that they work. But they haven't been getting rewarded for that productivity. Average hourly earnings have not kept up with inflation for the past 2 years and they barely kept even the year before that. Median family income has failed to keep up with inflation every year under President Bush.

Those who are already well-to-do are doing very well in the Bush economy. But the typical American family is struggling to make ends meet in the face of high costs for energy, health care, and a college education for their children.

This budget resolution does not address any of these problems. In fact, it makes things worse. An analysis by the Democratic staff of the Joint Economic Committee shows that budget cuts in programs that provide payments for individuals are concentrated among lower-income families, while the tax cuts that have already been enacted go overwhelmingly to those at the top of the distribution. More than a third of the costs of spending cuts for

families go to those in the bottom 20 percent of the distribution (families that together have only 3 percent of aggregate income). Meanwhile those at the top get nearly three-quarters of the benefits from the tax cuts. This analysis relates to the budget resolution originally brought to the floor a month ago, but the essential character of the plan has not changed.

With policies that have turned a \$5.6 trillion 10-year budget surplus into a deficit over those same 10 years of at least \$2.7 trillion, this Administration and this Congress have turned the United States into a Nation of debtors, relying on the rest of the world to finance our budget deficits and the rest of our excessive spending. Last year we had a current account deficit of \$805 billion. That is the amount of money we had to borrow from the rest of the world to finance our trade deficit and international payment imbalance.

Foreign governments are holding large quantities of our public debt, putting us at risk of a major international financial crisis if they should decide that the benefits of holding dollars are no longer worth the risk.

Mr. Chairman, future prosperity depends on increasing our national savings and making wise investments; it depends on being ready for the retirement of the baby-boom generation and the pressure we know that will put on the budget. But how is the other side preparing us for that future—with more deficits and more debt. They want to make the tax cuts that have gotten us into this mess permanent, and they have no realistic plan for controlling spending or bringing revenues into line with the amount we need to spend to defend the country and take care of the needs of our citizens. We need a better plan.

CELEBRATING THE FIRST JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in solidarity with Jewish Americans from Maine to Hawaii to celebrate the designation of this May as the first ever Jewish American Heritage Month.

On Thursday April 20th, President Bush proclaimed that May would be Jewish American Heritage Month. I was a proud cosponsor of H. Con. Res. 315 when it unanimously passed the House of Representatives on December 15th, 2005, urging the President to do just that. Now for the first time there will be a national month recognizing the 352-year history of Jewish contributions to American culture.

As a first generation Jewish American, I have witnessed firsthand Jewish immigrants who have come to this Nation in order to create a better life for themselves, their families, and future generations. Since the first Jews settled here over 300 years ago, Jewish Americans have made endless contributions to our country through technology, the economy, entertainment, academia, politics, art, medicine, military service, and more. Like other important immigrant communities, the Jewish experience in the United States represents the ideal of freedom and the promise and opportunity of America.

Through educational programming, Jewish American History Month will help raise the awareness of a people, their history and contributions. It will help combat anti-Semitism, a phenomenon that is on the rise and that unfortunately still exists in our Nation. At no time in recent history has the need for this observance been greater. According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) most recent Hate Crimes Statistics, 67.8 percent of criminal incidents motivated by religions bias stemmed from anti-Jewish prejudice.

The lessons from the Holocaust have taught Jewish Americans that we must never turn a blind eye to terror or discrimination. It is necessary to combat hate wherever it exists. As a Jew I cannot sit idle while genocidal atrocities continue to unfold in Darfur, Sudan. I was proud to witness American Jewish organizations found the Save Darfur Coalition in June 2004 to mobilize a coordinated interfaith response to the ongoing humanitarian disaster. I hope every American will lend their support to this critical effort.

I look forward to the celebrations that will take place each May for years to come and I encourage everyone to help make this inaugural year's observance memorable by developing educational and celebratory programs in your communities.

And I wish you a happy Jewish American Heritage Month.

SUPPORT FOR THE NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, as a strong supporter of the efforts being undertaken by the National Security agency to monitor and track terrorists, I commend to the attention of my colleagues the excellent piece by Mort Kondracke in today's Roll Call.

Mr. Kondracke rightly notes that the NSA's interception of international terrorist communications is both legitimate and vital to the Global War on Terror.

[From the Roll Call, May 18, 2006]

IDEOLOGICAL CONFLICT MENACES U.S. ABILITY TO FIGHT TERRORISM

(By Morton M. Kondracke)

Enough already! It's harmful enough that ideological conflict and partisan politics are preventing this country from solving its long-term challenges on health care, fiscal policy and energy. Now, it's threatening our national survival.

I do not exaggerate. Bush-hatred has reached such intensity that CIA officers and other bureaucrats are leaking major secrets about anti-terrorism policy and communications intelligence that undermine our ability to fight Islamic extremism.

Would newspapers in the midst of World War II have printed the fact that the U.S. had broken German and Japanese codes, enabling the enemy to secure its communications? Or revealed how and where Nazi spies were being interrogated? Nowadays, newspapers win Pulitzer Prizes for such disclosures.

In Congress and in much of the media, the immediate reaction to news that the National Security Agency was intercepting international terrorist communications was

not to say, "Good work—and how can we help?" Rather, it was to scream about a "domestic spying" scandal, as though Richard Nixon were back in the White House and tapping the telephone of Democratic National Committee Chairman Howard Dean.

And the reaction has been much the same to USA Today's story last week that the NSA "has been secretly collecting the phone call records of tens of millions of Americans" in a program that "reaches into the homes and businesses across the nation by amassing information about the calls of ordinary Americans."

Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.), ranking member on the Senate Judiciary Committee, reacted by asserting that "these are tens of millions of Americans who are not suspected of anything but we're just going to collect their phone information for the heck of it. Where does it stop?"

Similarly, Newsweek's cover this week blames "Spying On Your Calls"—no question mark used—and implies that the Bush White House could be tapping everyone's telephones.

In fact, what seems to be happening, though the details are secret, is that most long-distance phone companies have given the NSA their billing records identifying what numbers are calling what other numbers, when and for how long. Names are not included. And the NSA—not for the heck of it but to protect us from attack—is using the records to track terrorist networks and calling patterns. If a known terrorist in Pakistan calls a number in Los Angeles, I want the government to know what numbers that person calls. Don't you?

Certainly, the government will find out the names of people in a terrorist calling chain. If it wants to tap a domestic phone, it needs a warrant and, unless officials are lying through their teeth, it is asking for them.

The NSA call logs also apparently are being mined to establish patterns of terrorist-related communication—the use of pay phones, duration of calls, times of communication, etc.

But all this scarcely constitutes "reaching into homes and businesses across the nation." If the government is snooping into the business of anyone except terrorists (or drug dealers, Mafiosi and child pornographers, whose names and numbers also can be easily obtained with a subpoena), it is wasting its time and our money.

The phone companies that are cooperating with the government ought to be congratulated for participating in the war on terrorism—as they would have been in WWII. Instead, they are being hauled before the Senate Judiciary Committee as though they were criminals. And trial lawyers are circling like vultures to make them pay zillions for alleged privacy violations.

As for myself, I'm sticking with AT&T as a long-distance carrier because (according to news reports), it did cooperate. If I had Qwest, which reportedly refused, I'd cancel.

Is there a potential for abuse in the NSA spying program? There is. For instance, it would be all too easy for officials to ask the NSA to trace the phone records of the winners of those odious Pulitzers—James Risen of The New York Times and Dana Priest of The Washington Post—in an effort to uncover their sources in the name of "protecting secrets" and "fighting terrorism."

The Senate Intelligence Committee, when it quizzes former NSA Director Michael Hayden in his CIA confirmation hearings Friday, should establish that the terrorist surveillance programs have not been abused, although there is no evidence of it.

To the extent he can do so without giving away secrets, Hayden also should tell the committee and the country why these pro-

grams are so essential and what the legal basis for them is.

If the administration believes, as officials often have said, that the 1978 Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act is obsolete in the age of super-computers and terrorism, it ought to work with Congress to rewrite the law. Skirting it won't work anymore.

But the fundamental problem infecting much of Congress, the media and the political class especially those, left of center—is that they are consumed with loathing for President Bush and all his works and are prepared to do anything to undermine him, even if it makes the country less safe.

Yes, Republicans tried to destroy former President Bill Clinton over sex and politics. But now Democrats what to destroy Bush so badly that they are willing to undercut national security.

Everyone in Congress (and the CIA) should see the movie "United 93" as a reminder of what we are up against, Muslim fanatics will not only try to destroy the Capitol, but also explode a nuclear bomb, if they can.

And, people also should heed the warning delivered by Princeton University professor Bernard Lewis, one of the nation's foremost scholars of Islam, before the Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life here last month.

Lewis, now 90, cast the struggle with Islamic extremism in WWII terms—it is 1938, he said, and "we seem to be more in the mode of Chamberlain at Munich rather than of Churchill."

Osama bin Laden and other would-be Hitlers, he said, consider the United States "an effete, degenerate, pampered enemy incapable of real resistance." It's part of the pattern that we fight among ourselves as much as against our enemies. This is more than serious. It's dire.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. WALLY HERGER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 17, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 376) establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2007 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2008 through 2011:

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Chairman, it's time for Congress to start making tough choices. Projected growth in mandatory spending threatens to crowd out all other spending and choke our economy unless we act now. Over the next 75 years, Medicare's unfunded liabilities amount to a staggering \$30 trillion—more than 5 times as much as Social Security's. We're on a fiscal path that we simply cannot sustain, presenting our children and grandchildren with a legacy of enormous debt or stifling tax increases.

There are difficult decisions that have to be made, but we must be responsible, tighten our belts, and live within our means. I applaud the RSC for its work on this budget alternative, and urge its passage.

HONORING THE 16TH ANNUAL DC BLACK PRIDE CELEBRATION

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, Memorial Day Weekend, May 26–29, is the 16th Annual DC Black Pride celebration in Washington, DC.

DC Black Pride is an exciting 4-day event complete with dynamic workshops, receptions, cultural arts activities, small and large nightclub events that culminates in the world's largest Black Pride Festival at Metro Center, on the site of Washington, DC's former Convention Center. Many consider DC's Festival one of the world's preeminent Black Pride celebrations. The Festival consistently draws more than 30,000 people to the Nation's Capital. Attendees come from every major urban area in the United States as well as from Canada, Great Britain, France, Germany, the Netherlands, the Caribbean and South Africa. The Black Pride Festival features activities for the entire family including performances by national recording artists, 200 exhibition booths, book signings from noted writers, participation from national and local health organizations, and arts and crafts.

Black Lesbian and Gay Pride Day, Inc. (BLGPD), the celebration's organizing body, chose the theme "Fire 2006" to encourage the Black Lesbian Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered (LGBT) people to "get fired up" about their health and wellness, to strengthen the Black LGBT Community, and to encourage Black LGBT people to live their lives with pride.

Black Lesbian and Gay Pride Day, Inc., a nonprofit organization with a volunteer Board of Directors coordinates this annual event. BLGPD's 2006 Board consists of Clarence J. Fluker, President; James Hawkins, Vice President; Janisha Gabriel, Secretary; Lisa Washington, Treasurer; the following Members at Large: Ramon Gardenhire, Shanika Whitehurst, Sterling Washington, Ray Daniels, Donovan Anderson, Courtney Snowden; and these Members Emeritus: Earl Fowlkes, Eric E. Richardson, and Cheryl Dunn who lead BLGPD in its mission to build knowledge of and to create greater pride in the Black Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered community's diversity while raising funds to ameliorate and prevent health problems, especially HIV/AIDS, in this community.

I ask the House to join me in welcoming all attending the 16th Annual DC Black Pride celebration in Washington, DC, and I take this opportunity to remind the celebrants that United States Citizens who reside in Washington, DC are taxed without full voting representation in Congress.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 17, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under

consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 376) establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2007 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2008 through 2011:

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in opposition to the Republican budget resolution. The Republican's 2007 budget—and the signing of tax cuts for millionaires today—reflects priorities that are not in line with what our country stands for or the values in which most Americans believe. In keeping with an unfortunate tradition, the Republicans have once again put tax cuts for the wealthy ahead of national security, investing in our economic competitiveness, and meeting the needs of seniors, families, and students. This budget puts K Street ahead of the needs of Main Street.

The Republicans claim that this budget will decrease the massive Bush-era deficit. However, even with all the cruel cuts they make to medical research, health care, and nutrition assistance, their tax cuts add another \$1.1 trillion to the deficit. Is that responsible?

The Republicans claim to have our country's best interests in mind. Yet, they slash funding for education and job training by \$4.6 billion. Is that in our best interest?

The Republicans allege that their fiscal policies spark economic growth and prosperity. In reality, income is dropping, poverty has increased over the last several years, and 7.1 million Americans remain unemployed. Is that growth and prosperity?

What is responsible is funding vocational education to train our future workers, as the Democratic alternative to this budget would do. It is in our country's best interest to fund port security and homeland security. The Democratic budget recognizes that by providing \$6.5 billion more than Republican budget does for homeland and port security. What would spur economic growth is funding initiatives like the Community Development Block Grants program, not cutting it by \$736 million as the Republicans do. That money would help revitalize our dilapidated neighborhoods.

As I have said time and time again, budgets reflect what we value and what is important to us as a country. I value senior citizens—and that is why I cannot support a Republican budget that cuts their housing assistance by 26 percent. I believe it is important to prepare for our future so I cannot support a plan that cuts 42 education programs. I support our troops and refuse to support any budget that would cut veterans' health care by \$8.6 billion even as new veterans, many severely wounded, are returning home every day. But that's what the Republican budget does.

I urge my colleagues to vote with our common American values and dreams in mind and support the Democratic and Congressional Black Caucus budgets and oppose the Republican budget that sells out the needs of the majority of Americans to make room for tax cuts for millionaires and K Street interests.

A TRIBUTE TO THE EAST NEW YORK FAMILY ACADEMY GIRLS' BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the East New York Family Academy Girls' Varsity Basketball Team. They are champions of the 2006 Girls Varsity Division VIII-B of the Public School Athletic League of New York City. Under the direction of Head Coach Earl S. Mitchell, Assistant Coach Eddie Barron, and Managers Rayon Clarke, Shakeema Mattocks and Bukky Odubanjio; the 2006 "Lady Eagles" excelled to an undefeated regular season record of 18 wins and no losses, while losing only one out of five games during the playoff season. Additionally, the East New York Family Academy Lady Eagles currently holds a record of two consecutive undefeated regular season.

I want to especially recognize the work of Athletic Director, John Cortese; and Principal Sheila Richards, who have worked hard to infuse excellence, respect and accountability not only in athletic programs, but in academic departments as well. At East New York Family Academy, it is truly a family affair. Coaches Mitchell and Barron have received a tremendous amount of inspiration from Tony Yard, the Head Coach of the Boys' Varsity Basketball Team and former member of the Panamanian Olympic Team, and from Donald Vanteerpool, the Head Coach of the Boys' Junior Varsity Basketball Team. Coach Mitchell is deeply appreciative of these coaches for teaching his team to respect the fundamentals of the game and for always being there when needed.

Although athletics are important, academics have not taken a backseat. In an era when sports achievements have sometimes replaced excellence in English, math, science and other academic areas, the coaches have demanded a high level of academic performance from team members. As an example, two players rank in the Top 10 of their senior class and four members of the starting five have received college acceptance offers.

Long after the last shot has been taken and the last ball dribbled, the members of the 2006 "Lady Eagles": Naledi Anderson, Alana Arthurs, Veldina Chaunce, Karanja Craig, Tiffan Dugue, Tabrese Harris, Ayana James, Shada Jordon, Dalkeitha Layne, Shamika McIntosh, Krista Mitchell, Tashanya Morris, and Tara Powell will benefit from the leadership, love and guidance given to them by their coaches, teachers and administrators at East New York Family Academy.

I am certain that in the days to come, the members of the 2006 "Lady Eagles" will build upon their experiences in basketball and their days at the East New York Family Academy and there will be more achievements to come.

Mr. Speaker, in this spirit, I believe that the accomplishments of the 2006 "Lady Eagles," and the work of their coaches, teachers and administrators, are truly worthy of our recognition here today.

TRIBUTE TO ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL OF THE SACRED HEART

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor St. Joseph's School of the Sacred Heart, on the occasion of the celebration of its centennial on May 20, 2006.

Emilie Blain Donohoe, an alumna of Sacred Heart in St. Louis, strongly believed in the educational mission of the Religious of the Sacred Heart. In 1904, she made an offer to them to fund a new school if they would agree to run it. In 1906, St. Joseph's School in Atherton, California opened its doors to 74 students. Then and now the school is guided by the spirit of the foundress of the Religious of the Sacred Heart, St. Madeleine Sophie Barat, who said, "Let us respect childhood; let us honor the soul of that small creature of God." It was her vision of teaching children of all social levels that inspired Emilie Blain Donohoe to fund a tuition-free school.

One hundred years later, St. Joseph's School of the Sacred Heart is considered the "gold standard" in K through 8 education. It is led by capable leaders and a faculty headed by Cee Salberg, Principal of the Preschool and Kindergarten, and Karen Eshoo, Principal of grades 1 through 8. Karen is my daughter and a graduate of St. Joseph's (Class of 1983) and Sacred Heart Preparatory (Class of 1987) and as such, exemplifies the best of a Sacred Heart education. The enrollment today is 520 children from Preschool through 8th grade. St. Joseph's has undergone many changes in 100 years but its mission remains the same: the development of the whole child spiritually, intellectually, emotionally and physically.

A St. Joseph's education represents the finest in academics . . . serious in principles, and rich in the spirit of life and love. The five Goals of the Sacred Heart Network inform everything that is done at St. Joseph's. They guide the community in a genuinely integrated approach to learning which is spiritually nurturing, academically challenging, and produces students who are committed to social justice in a spirit of Christian community. St. Joseph's students are continually challenged to support each other, while at the same time achieving their own personal goals.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring an extraordinary school, St. Joseph's of the Sacred Heart, as it celebrates one hundred years of educating our children. I pay tribute to the Religious of the Sacred Heart for their inspired work of educating generations of children and my congratulations to the entire Sacred Heart community of students, teachers, staff, alumni, parents and donors who have all helped to shape responsible citizens of our country. May the next century be marked by the excellence and achievements of the first 100 years at St. Joseph's School of the Sacred Heart.

HONORING THE CREW OF USS
"LAGARTO"

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mr. LIPINSKI Mr. Speaker, I wish to pay tribute to 86 brave men who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country and, for freedom—the crew of the submarine USS *Lagarto*—as well as their loved ones—their wives and sweethearts, sons and daughters, brothers and sisters, mothers and fathers—who have all kept them in their hearts for more than 60 years.

The story of the *Lagarto* represents the sacrifices made by sailors in the "Silent Service," the most dangerous of all the missions, as submariners suffered the highest percentage of combat deaths of any service in any branch of the armed forces during World War II.

The *Lagarto*, built in the shipyards of Manitowoc, Wisconsin, had a short but distinguished career. The submarine joined the assault on Imperial Japan in early 1945, and was credited with sinking a Japanese submarine and other enemy vessels.

However, on May 3, 1945, the *Lagarto* and its sister submarine, the USS *Baya*, were coordinating an attack on a Japanese convoy off the coast of Thailand. The Japanese escort minelayer *Hatsutaka* was able to drive off the *Baya* in the early hours of May 4. But the *Lagarto* was never heard from again. Evidence pointed to a depth charge from the *Hatsutaka* that may have sunk the *Lagarto*, and the submarine was presumed lost with all hands on board.

For the next 60 years, many of the loved ones of the *Lagarto* crew continued to wonder where their final resting place might be. Then, in the Spring of 2005, a fishing boat snagged a large object off the Thai coast. Eventually, renowned wreck diver Jamie McLeod investigated and helped confirm that the wreckage in about 180 feet of water was the *Lagarto*.

On Saturday, May 6, 2006, the crew of the *Lagarto* was honored by the Navy during a special annual USS *Lagarto* Remembrance Day Memorial Ceremony at the Wisconsin Maritime Museum in Manitowoc. This event was attended by more than 150 family members of the crew of the *Lagarto*.

As Nancy Mabin Kenney, who was a toddler when her father, Seaman 1st Class William T. Mabin, was lost on the *Lagarto*, said: "This ceremony will be our way of saying goodbye that we never had."

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me honoring the brave men of USS *Lagarto* and to express our sincere gratitude to their families and friends upon the ultimate sacrifice these sailors gave for our great nation.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON
THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR
2007

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 17, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under

consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 376) establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2007 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2008 through 2011:

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Chairman, today I rise in support of the Spratt budget substitute and in strong opposition to H. Con. Res. 376, the Republican budget.

Our son, daughters, and neighbors are bravely fighting wars abroad. Unfortunately, when they return home, they will find a country that has lost its way. We pay lip service to shared sacrifice, but while they risk their lives for us, Republicans in Congress are providing tax cuts for the richest 1 percent of Americans, slashing programs for working-class families and turning their backs on the middle class. The budget before us today continues these misguided policies. It does not represent the priorities of the American people, nor does it respect the values our soldiers are fighting to protect.

For too long, Republicans have racked up charges on the national credit card, while passing the bill on to future generations. Now is our chance to set this country on the proper course to ensure America's economic success and protect our grandchildren from having to pay for today's irresponsible decisions.

There is a better way. Despite the horrible fiscal outlook facing our Nation due to Republican policies, the Spratt substitute still manages to balance the budget in 6 years, cut taxes for the middle class, and provide realistic funding for education, health care, and veterans programs, all of which are short-changed by the Republicans.

The Spratt substitute has a better bottom line than the Republican budget every year. Fiscal responsibility today will lead to lower deficits, smaller interest payments, and less national debt in the future. Most significantly, after the budget is balanced, we can finally begin to pay off the trillions of dollars in debt that have accumulated since President Bush took office.

Unfortunately, the budget proposed by House Republicans does nothing to improve the quality of life in America. It would add more than \$350 billion to the national debt next year alone. Under Republican stewardship, the five years between fiscal year 2003 and 2007 will provide us with the five largest deficits in American history. This is not a legacy worth continuing. We cannot afford to borrow additional money to continue paying for failed economic policies.

Not only does the Spratt substitute match the President's request for defense spending, but it also includes additional needed funds for homeland security programs, including port security. As a member of the Homeland Security Committee, I am concerned that the Republican budget closely mirrors the President's, which proposes to eliminate several programs important to the safety of all Americans. Programs on the chopping block include the COPS Interoperability Grant Program, the SAFER Program for firefighting equipment, the Metropolitan Medical Response System, the Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program, and Justice Assistance Grants. In 2005, these programs provided more than \$13 million in grants to help Rhode Island's first responders keep my constituents safe. Since September 11, we have asked our police and

firefighters to do so much more, but this budget fails to provide the resources they so badly need.

In addition, the budget would freeze or cut all non-homeland security discretionary spending. If the Republicans have their way, 5 years from now, education and health programs will receive even less than they do today. Cuts to social programs would place a larger burden on the working class at a time when they can least afford it.

Even with all of these cuts, the Republicans still have no plan to balance the budget. Instead, they want to give away the savings to the wealthy by making permanent tax cuts on investment income. As a recent New York Times article indicated, "Americans with annual incomes of \$1 million or more, about one-tenth of 1 percent of all taxpayers, reaped 43 percent of all the savings on investment taxes in 2003." At the same time, those earning less than \$50,000 saved an average of only \$10 on the same capital gains and dividend tax cuts. The wealthiest Americans are doing fine on their own, and we should not be borrowing money to give them more special favors.

Deficit spending has stymied job growth and is plaguing our economy. No Rhode Islander would write a check without sufficient funds to cover it. Neither should the government. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the Spratt budget substitute and opposing the underlying Republican plan.

PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, due to circumstances beyond my control, I missed Roll Call Vote 153 on Wednesday, May 17, 2006. Had I been present I would have voted "aye." This was a vote to order the previous question on H. Res. 817, a rule providing for further consideration of the budget resolution.

THE AMBASSADORS' REVIEW OF
THE COUNCIL OF AMERICAN AM-
BASSADORS

HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I wish to insert in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the following statement by Joseph Verner Reed, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations.

VIEWPOINTS: UNITED NATIONS

Secretary-General Kofi A. Annan will step down from his position as Secretary-General when his second five-year term ends on December 31.

The search for a successor to Secretary-General Annan promises to create differences within the U.N. Security Council. Russia and China back the customary procedure of rotating the post among the world's regions, while the U.S. and Britain are questioning the need to do so.

Since the United Nations was established in October 1945, the post of Secretary-General has been held by Trygve Lie of Norway

(1946-1953); Dag Hammarskjöld of Sweden (1953-1961); U Thant of Burma (1961-1971); Kurt Waldheim of Austria (1972-1981); Javier Perez de Cuellar of Peru (1982-1991); and Boutros Boutros-Ghali of Egypt (1992-1996). Kofi A. Annan, who is from Ghana, has served since January 1997.

The list of candidates widely discussed in the international press include: Aleksander Kwasniewski, former Polish president; Vaira Vike-Freiberga, Latvian president; Kemal Dervis, Turkey, currently head of the U.N. Development Program; Surakiart Sathirathai, Thailand's deputy prime minister; Shashi Tharoor, India, U.N. under-secretary-general for Communications and Public Information and an award-winning journalist/novelist; Ban Ki Moon, South Korea's foreign minister; Jose Ramos-Horta, foreign minister of East Timor and a 1996 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate; Jayantha Dhanapala, Sri Lanka, served as U.N. undersecretary-general for disarmament and as ambassador to the United States; Goh Chok Tong, former prime minister of Singapore; and Prince Zeid Ra'ad Zeid Al-Hussein, Jordanian ambassador to the U.N. The list is not exhaustive and the selection of a dark-horse candidate cannot be discounted.

The BBC (February 14) reported, "Analysts say there is much support for an Asian leader among U.N. member states, in line with an informal tradition that rotates the role on a geographical basis. But Washington's U.N. Ambassador John R. Bolton said last month that Kofi Annan's successor should be selected on merit alone."

There have been calls for a Woman as Secretary-General. Woman's groups have begun lobbying for a woman to succeed Secretary-General Annan. Their campaign has taken on new urgency with the recent announcement that Secretary-General Annan's deputy, Louise Frechette, appointed in 1998 partly because she was a woman, will leave in April to return to her native Canada.

As the campaigns move forward it is to be noted that there are no established qualifications for the post, no search committees, no interviews, no background checks, no campaign rules and no forums for showcasing aspirants and their ideas.

If history is a guide, it is likely that none of the discussed candidates will emerge the winner and that the person who does is not being publicly discussed.

Wang Guangya, China's Ambassador (the PRC holding a Permanent seat on the Security Council) at a recent reception said China would support only candidates from Asia, a polite way of saying the PRC would threaten to veto candidates from elsewhere.

The current Chief of Staff for the Secretary-General is Mark Malloch Brown, recently Head of the UNDP (United Nations Development Program). He will take the post of Deputy Secretary-General in April.

Meanwhile, the Secretary General has presented a far-reaching report with proposals for an overhaul ranging from setting up a 2,500-strong core of mobile peacekeeping professionals to multimillion-dollar investments in training and technology.

His far-reaching report "Investing in the United Nations: For a Stronger Organization Worldwide," focuses on ensuring efficiency and accountability in a way that reflects the fact that more than 70 per cent of the \$10 billion annual budget now relates to peacekeeping and other field operations, up from around 50 per cent of a \$4.5 billion budget ten years ago.

"Our current rules and regulations were designed for an essentially static Secretariat, whose main function was to service conferences and meetings of Member States, and whose staff worked mainly at Headquarters," the Secretary-General said as he

presented the report in the General Assembly Hall. "Today thanks to the mandates that Member States have given us, we are engaged directly in many parts of the world, working on the ground to improve the lives of people who need help."

In the 16 years since the cold war ended, the Organization has taken on more than twice as many new peacekeeping missions as in the previous 44 years and spending on peacekeeping has quadrupled. Over half of its 30,000 civilian staff now serve in the field—not only in peacekeeping, but also in humanitarian relief, criminal justice, human rights monitoring, supporting national elections, and in the battle against drugs and crime.

The Secretary-General's comprehensive reform blueprint was called for in the Outcome Document adopted by national leaders at last September's World Summit in New York. It builds on a package of reforms Mr. Annan launched last year to enhance ethics and accountability and address weaknesses exposed by the Independent Inquiry on the Oil-for-Food Programme as well as evidence of sexual exploitation in certain peacekeeping operations.

In the report, the Secretary-General urges Member States to seize the moment for change. "This is an opportunity, which may not occur again until another generation has passed, to transform the United Nations by aligning it with, and equipping it for, the substantive challenges it faces in the twenty-first century," he writes. "It is a chance to give Member States the tools they need to provide strategic direction and hold the Secretariat fully accountable for its performance."

While the report identifies a number of areas of potential cost savings and efficiencies, the primary financial message is that it is time to reverse years of underinvestment in people, systems and information technology to address operational deficiencies and ensure that the UN can reach the level of effectiveness expected by Member States.

The Secretary-General said that although the UN had made a number of major organizational changes in recent years to keep up with the increasing expectations of Member States, these efforts had only addressed the symptoms, not the causes, of the Organization's shortcomings. "It is now time to reach for deeper, more fundamental change," he said.

Along these lines, the proposals encompass a revamped version of how to recruit, contract, train, assign and compensate staff, with an emphasis on bringing conditions for field-based personnel up to par with those at other UN agencies operating in the field. This will include proposals for converting 2,500 existing short-term peacekeeping positions into a new flexible and mobile core of dedicated specialists who can be deployed rapidly in urgent peacekeeping and special political missions.

"Increasingly complex mandates require staff with different skills," the Secretary-General told the Assembly. "We need to be able to recruit and retain leaders, managers and personnel capable of handling large multidisciplinary operations, with increasingly high budgets. 'As things stand,' he added, 'many of our staff, especially the field staff who serve with great idealism and integrity, often in situations of hardship and danger are demoralized and de-motivated by lack of opportunities for promotion, and by the frustrations of dealing with a bureaucracy that can seem both excessive and remote.'"

The report calls for consolidating reporting to address logjams associated with the current system, where over 100 senior UN officials are directly answerable to the Secretary-General. It also proposes the formal

delegation of responsibility for management policies and overall operational matters to a redefined post of Deputy Secretary-General to help free the Secretary-General to focus on political and policy issues.

The report also proposes significant investment to overhaul the Organization's information and communications infrastructure by replacing current antiquated, fragmented technology systems with an integrated global platform that should be led by a dedicated Chief Information Technology Officer.

Separately, the report identifies significant opportunities to realize cost savings and efficiency gains, recommending that the Secretariat explore options for alternative service delivery, including the potential for relocating core functions from Headquarters to lower cost duty stations and possible outsourcing of less central functions such as printing.

One area where investment could yield substantial savings is procurement, where the report outlines change that would improve transparency and realize up to \$400 million.

A number of the proposals fall under the direct authority of the Secretary-General, who said he intends to immediately carry them out. But most of the fundamental changes, particularly with regard to budget and personnel issues, require approval from Member States.

To help ensure momentum for this agenda through the end of his term and to help equip his successor to follow through, the Secretary-General also proposes creating a Change Management Office that would seek to work closely with Member States to drive the implementation of the reforms.

In the report, Mr. Annan cautions against complacency, stressing that the proposals must mark the beginning of a process that will be carried over the next several years. "One of the weaknesses of the old culture is precisely the view that a report or a vote in itself represents change," he notes. "In practice, reports and votes enable and authorize change, but change itself is the long march that follows."

Last week the international community took an important step forward in the fight for global human rights by way of the General Assembly voting to adopt a new Human Rights Council.

The new Human Rights Council represents a significant improvement over the old, discredited Human Rights Commission because it includes a number of new provisions and characteristics that will significantly strengthen the UN's human rights machinery and prevent human rights violators from participating in the Council.

The President of the General Assembly, Jan Eliasson, has done a masterful job of diplomacy, as demonstrated by the broad support that exists among governments and non-governmental organizations.

His proposal was made considerably stronger through pledges by a large number of countries.

These recent pledges will help ensure that countries with dubious human rights records will not be elected to the new Council and that countries under Security Council sanctions are prevented from participating in the Council.

The new commitments significantly enhance the proposal and set the stage for additional efforts to strengthen the new body as it is formed and made operational.

Countries committed to human rights must know that leadership and diplomacy can continue to improve the Council as it gets up and running and into the future.

While this unfortunate that the United States found itself virtually alone in New York and was unable to join consensus, it is

a positive sign that the United States did not abandon the Council altogether.

Result of the GA resolution on Human Rights Council: 170 in favour; 44 against (U.S., Israel, Marshall Islands, Palau); and 3 abstained (Venezuela, Iran, Belarus).

Building on these principles, the U.S. should participate actively in the next phase of the Council, exercising leadership and summoning enlightened diplomacy to advance the Council and the cause of human rights.

The creation of this new Council—which was mandated by world leaders in last September's summit at the UN—also fuels the momentum in the ongoing reform process at the UN.

The Secretary-General attended the World Economic Forum in January of this year and addressed the Plenary Session:

“A NEW MINDSET FOR THE UNITED NATIONS”

“Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, Dear friends:

“Some of you may remember me coming to Davos nine years ago, as a freshly minted Secretary-General.

“Since then I have attended all but three of your annual meetings—including the memorable one in 2002 when you came to show confidence in New York, after the attack on the World Trade Center.

“So I did not hesitate one minute, Klaus, before accepting your kind invitation to come here once more, at the beginning of my last year in office. And I was also very happy to accept the title you suggested for this session—a new mindset for the United Nations”.

“Why? because it expresses something I have striven to achieve throughout these nine years, and something in which Davos itself has played a part.

“In 1999, when I came here and called for a ‘global compact’ between the United Nations and the private sector, many of my colleagues in the Secretariat—and many representatives of member States—would hardly have been more shocked if I had proposed a compact with the Devil.

“It is the mindset that I have been seeking to change throughout my time in office—the mindset that sees international relations as nothing more than relations between States, and the United Nations as little more than a trade union for governments.

“My objective has been to persuade both the member States and my colleagues in the Secretariat that the United Nations needs to engage not only with governments but with people. Only if it does that, I believe, can it fulfill its vocation and be of use to humanity in the 21st century.

“That’s why, in the year 2000, I used the first words of the UN Charter, ‘We the Peoples’ as the title of my report setting out the agenda for the Millennium Summit, at which political leaders from all over the world came together to assess the challenges of a new century, and adopted a collective response, known as the ‘Millennium Declaration.’

“And that was why last year, in my report called ‘In Larger Freedom’, I urged governments to accept that security and development are interdependent, and that neither can be long sustained without respect for human rights and the rule of law.

“That report was intended as the blueprint, not only for a far-reaching reform of the United Nations itself, but also for a series of decisions that would enable humanity to realize the aims of the Millennium Declaration, particularly in the light of new challenges that had arisen since.

“How far the blueprint will be translated into reality, remains to be seen. But in the meantime the United Nations has not stood

still. Far from it! This has been a decade of rapid change. Let me give you a few examples.

“When I took office there was a widespread perception, based on the tragic events in Bosnia, Somalia and Rwanda, that UN peacekeeping was a failed experiment, and that henceforth this task would have to be handled by regional organizations.

“Peacekeepers, especially in countries where conflict is still raging—where there is literally no peace to keep—continue to face immense challenges. Even so, today we have 85,000 people serving in 16 UN peacekeeping operations, spread across four continents. Most of these operations are not static observers of a truce, but active participants in the implementation of peace agreements, helping the people of war-torn countries make the transition from war to peace.

“Certainly, in many parts of the world regional organizations play an important role, and so they should. But most often they do so in partnership with the United Nations. The UN has become, in effect, the indispensable mechanism for bringing international help to countries recovering from conflict—and member States have now recognized this by agreeing to set up a Peacebuilding Commission, within the UN, to manage this highly complex process.

“The last decade has also seen growing use of United Nations economic sanctions. These are now used to influence or restrict the activity not only of recalcitrant States, but also of non-State actors, such as rebel movements or terrorist groups. At the same time, the Security Council has developed more sophisticated and humane types of sanctions, aimed at individuals rather than whole societies—travel bans, for instance, and the freezing of bank accounts.

“The same philosophy of punishing individuals rather than communities has driven the work of the UN criminal tribunals for Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia—one of which was the first international court to convict people of genocide (including a former prime minister) and of rape as a war crime, while the other has become the first to indict and try a former Head of State.

“This in turn has led to further innovations, including the mixed tribunal in Sierra Leone and, of course, the International Criminal Court. The latter is not an organ of the United Nations, but the UN convened and serviced the conference, which adopted its Statute in 1998.

“Over 100 States have now ratified the Statute—which means that the Court’s jurisdiction is now recognized by well over half the UN’s membership.

“Another way the UN has changed is the increasing focus on human rights—which is reflected in the recent decision by member States to strengthen the office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. That office is now a dynamic operational entity, which deploys and supports hundreds of human rights workers around the world. And I hope that within the next week or two we may see agreement on a corresponding change at the intergovernmental level, with the establishment of a more authoritative Human Rights Council, to replace the now widely discredited Commission.

“One more example of change: the United Nations has responded to the growth of international terrorism. Even before ‘9/11’, the Security Council had imposed sanctions on Al-Qaida, and set up a special committee to monitor its activities. Immediately after the attack, the Council went much further, with its historic resolution 1373, which imposed stringent obligations on all countries, established a list of terrorist organizations and individuals, and created the Counter-Terrorism Committee to monitor member

States’ compliance and help them improve their capacity to enact and implement anti-terrorist legislation.

“In short, I believe the United Nations is proving itself an increasingly flexible instrument, to which its member States turn for a wider and wider array of functions.

“For instance, within the last five years the UN has been asked: to shepherd Afghanistan’s transition from the anarchic wasteland of the Taliban and the warlords to the nascent democracy—still struggling, but hopeful—that it is today; to help establish the Interim Government of Iraq, and to help organize the referendum and elections there—as it has supported democratic elections in half the world’s nations over the last 12 years; to verify the withdrawal of Syrian troops from Lebanon and carry out, for the first time ever, a full criminal investigation into the assassination of a former prime minister; to coordinate global relief efforts after the tsunami, and again after the earthquake in Kashmir; and to take the lead in raising global awareness, as well as funds, to protect the world’s peoples against avian flu.

“What all these activities have in common is that they involve the United Nations not simply in relations among its member States, but also in the lives of their peoples. To carry out such tasks, we must engage not only with governments but with all the new actors on the international scene.

“That includes the private sector, but it also includes parliamentarians; voluntary, non-profit organizations; philanthropic foundations; the global media; celebrities from the worlds of sport and entertainment; and in some cases labour unions, mayors and local administrators. And it includes less benign actors such as terrorists, warlords, and traffickers in drugs, illicit weapons or—worst of all—the lives and bodies of human beings.

“That is why I have repeatedly urged all the organs of the United Nations to be more open to civil society, so that their decisions can fully reflect the contribution made by groups and individuals who devote themselves to studying specific problems, or working in specific areas.

“It is also why I myself have cultivated contacts with scholars, with parliamentarians, with practitioners of all sorts, and with young people—seeking to learn from their views and also encouraging them, whatever sector they work in, to use their talents for the public good and to keep the global horizon in view.

“It is one of the reasons why I have worked constantly to make our Organization more transparent and comprehensible to the public, and thereby more genuinely accountable.

“And, of course, it is why I launched the Global Compact, to which the international business community—including some of you in this audience—has responded with such enthusiasm that it is now the world’s leading corporate citizenship initiative, involving more than 2,400 companies, in nearly 90 countries.

“This new mindset must also extend to the domain of international peace and security—so that we think of security not only in conventional terms, focusing on prevention of war between States, but also as including the protection of the world’s peoples, against threats which, to many of them today, seem more immediate and more real.

“One of those threats is the threat of genocide and other crimes against humanity. I called the General Assembly’s attention to this in 1999, warning that such mass atrocities can never be treated as a purely domestic affair. Being rightly called crimes against humanity, they demand a collective response from humanity, which should be organized and legitimized by the United Nations.

"More recently, the High-Level Panel that I appointed in 2003 has identified a broad range of threats, including: poverty, infectious disease and environmental degradation; conflict within States, as well as between them; the spread of nuclear, radiological, chemical and biological weapons; terrorism; and transnational organized crime.

"My 'Larger Freedom' report built on this re-definition of global security, drawing it together with the detailed recommendations of the Millennium Project for achieving the Millennium Development Goals by 2015—which in itself would rescue many millions of people from the threats of poverty and disease.

"But my report also included a third dimension: human rights and the rule of law. Without these, any society, however well-armed, will remain insecure; and its development, however dynamic, will remain precarious.

"Member States took the report as their starting-point in negotiating the outcome of last September's world summit. I won't say that that document fulfills all my hopes. But it does contain many important decisions—from the creation of a Peacebuilding Commission and Human Rights Council, through the commitments to advance the Millennium Development Goals, to the acceptance, by all States individually and collectively, of the responsibility to protect populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity.

"Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

"The United Nations cannot stand still, because the threats to humanity do not stand still. Every day the world presents new challenges, which the founders of the UN 60 years ago could never have anticipated. Whether it is a looming crisis over Iran and its compliance with the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, continuing atrocities in Darfur, or the threat of an avian flu pandemic, people all over the world look to the United Nations to play a role in making peace, protecting civilians, improving livelihoods, promoting human rights and upholding international law. I have worked long and hard to transform the United Nations so that when called upon, as we are every day, we will deliver what is asked of us—effectively, efficiently and equitably. That is the true objective of the changes I have sought to bring about, and it will be the true measure of my success or failure.

"And my successor—since I understand several members of this panel may be interested in the position—need not worry. Changing the mindset of the United Nations, so that it can both reflect and influence the temper of the times, is a never-ending challenge. There will be plenty more work to do in the years and decades to come."

I have worked for three Secretary Generals and been at post for some 20 years. I am honored to have worked for the House of Peace. As we approach the new era of a new Secretary-General I say it is time for renewal.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT F. CARROLL
CHAIRMAN, APLASTIC ANEMIA &
MDS INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION

HON. NANCY L. JOHNSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to inform the House of the passing of Robert F.

Carroll, a constituent of mine from Wolcott, Connecticut. I ask that you join me in paying tribute to this great man, who served both as the Chairman of the Board of the Aplastic Anemia & MDS International Foundation and the Assistant Executive Director for the Connecticut Association of Schools in Cheshire, CT.

In April 1991, at age 57, Bob was diagnosed with myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS), a serious and non-contagious rare bone marrow failure disease. Bob was told he had MDS after having gone to his doctor for a routine check-up required by the school district for which he worked. He was given two to four years to live. He had always told his wife, Marie, that he would not want to know if he had a life-threatening disease. But courageously Bob transformed his fear of dying to a fear of dying without giving back. From at month in 1991 until today, Bob set about to make a difference for individuals and families suffering from bone marrow diseases.

In early 1992, Bob and his wife were searching the Internet and came across the Aplastic Anemia & MDS International Foundation. He contacted the executive director immediately and, as a result, was given everything he needed to educate himself about the disease, clinical trials, and support networks of other patients. He soon became active and a member of the board. Four years later, he became President of the Foundation, the first patient President in the history of the organization. He believed in the same goals as the Foundation, which is to keep patients attitudes positive. He refused to let his life change because of his MDS. He did not retire, and instead continued with his career in education and the many projects that kept him active and busy.

For 15 years, Bob advocated tirelessly for the tens of thousands of individuals diagnosed with bone marrow diseases (about 35,000 new cases are diagnosed annually). He also became involved in the recovery efforts in Sri Lanka after the devastating tsunami of 2004, traveling to that country and raising money in the U.S. for recovery efforts. And through his service with the Connecticut Association of Schools, Bob worked strenuously to improve the quality of education in our school systems.

Bob was able to live with MDS thanks to the hundreds of transfusions he received over a period of 15 years. Unfortunately, though, there is no cure for MDS. The extreme low blood counts that are caused by MDS ultimately took their toll on Bob's long-term health. Bob passed away yesterday in Connecticut.

Bob would not want us to remember him as a victim of a rare disease, but rather as one who experienced a new challenge that gave greater purpose to his life. He often referred to MDS as his "gift" because it taught him that relationships with others are what are important in life. Let us honor this spirit today by paying the highest tribute to this great American and tireless advocate for those suffering from rare diseases.

CONGRATULATIONS TO COACH
TREY GIBSON AND THE LOUISIANA
TECH UNIVERSITY DEBATE TEAM

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Louisiana Tech University Debate Team for its continued success this academic year. Just last month, the debate team regained its national championship status and the team is poised to continue its success next season.

The team's success is not accidental; the foundation of this team's success was established by hard work, determination, dedication and experience. At the helm of the Louisiana Tech Debate Team is Trey Gibson, a Louisiana native who came to Louisiana Tech in 2000. This year's team includes: Levy Leatherman, John Emory, Bill Willis, Kris Lucas, John McCorkle, Michelli McKnight, Matt LaCaze, Baileigh McClaran, Henry Shuler, Courtney McGuffee, Rachel Taylor, Kyle O'Neal, Taryn Branson, Kacey Richard, Nick Cordaro, Richie Robinson, Christina Linza and Reece Lewis.

Gibson works tirelessly to promote this program and uses his talent, energy and drive toward developing articulate students. Long after these students graduate, Gibson's lessons and dedication will continue to surface as his students succeed in business and public service professions. By winning the national championship, the Louisiana Tech Debate Team also earned the prestigious Protogoras Cup. It is also important to note that this year's team faced the trials and tribulations that Hurricanes Katrina and Rita brought to our state. Most north Louisiana institutions of higher learning had to carry the burdens of finding space for our south Louisiana students from other universities, and all state universities had to address budget cuts. Through all of this, the team continued on its successful journey.

Mr. Speaker, I am also pleased to know that the academic honors these students have achieved will truly pay off for our nation. This type of training will enhance and strengthen each student's educational experience. I am thankful for professors like Trey Gibson, who exude energy and determination in the classroom. The fruits of his labor are evident in his team's storied success.

BILL IN SUPPORT OF RELIEF TO
MENNONITE MUTUAL AID

HON. MARK E. SOUDER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of a bill that would offer relief to Mennonite Mutual Aid, a organization affiliated with the Mennonite church based in Indiana that provides individuals with socially-conscious investment and retirement options.

For more than 40 years Mennonite Mutual Aid has been offering defined benefits to its customers in the form of annuities paid directly from its 401(a) defined contribution church retirement plan, a process known as "self-

annuitization." However, regulations issued by the IRS in 2002 prohibited the practice of self-annuitization, although they allowed it for church retirement plans organized under section 403(b)(9). Instead, the IRS stated that plans must purchase annuities from commercial insurance companies.

Mr. Speaker, there is no good policy reason for why the two types of church plans should be treated differently regarding self-annuitization. Furthermore, the Department of the Treasury has indicated they would not oppose a legislative change on this issue. Churches should have the right to invest for retirement in the ways they see fit, and commercial insurance companies cannot and do not manage their investments according to these high standards. Moreover, the ability to offer annuities is necessary to prevent the possibility of beneficiaries outliving their retirement funds under an alternative installment payment system. In order to prevent this unfairness, my bill would use a "grandfather" approach to grant the ability to self-annuitize only to those 401(a) plans that were in existence on the date the final IRS regulations were issued in 2002.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill so that the Mennonites can continue to offer annuities invested in the way they see fit.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOE BARTON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, May 17, 2006, I was diagnosed with an inner ear infection and was unable to fly to Washington, D.C. ahead of all votes. As a result, I missed several votes on this day and ask that my statement be placed in the appropriate part of the RECORD to reflect how I would have voted on the following roll call votes, had I been present.

Wednesday, May 17, 2006:

Ray: On agreeing to the Rahall (WV) amendment Failed by recorded vote: 189-236 (Roll no. 147). Strikes section 103 of H.R. 4200, regarding expedited procedures and certain exceptions to compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

Ray: On agreeing to the DeFazio (OR) amendment Failed by recorded vote: 184-240. (Roll no. 148). Strikes section 104 of H.R. 4200, regarding "availability and use of pre-approved management practices" and replaces it with a new section 104.

Ray: On agreeing to the Inslee (WA) amendment Failed by recorded vote: 191-231 (Roll no. 149). Adds a new section to H.R. 200, stating that the Act shall not apply to any inventoried roadless area within the National Forest System.

Ray: On agreeing to the Udall (NM) amendment Failed by recorded vote: 197-228 (Roll no. 150). Adds a new section to H.R. 4200, which would require the Secretary concerned (when implementing any pre-approved management practice or catastrophic event recovery project as described in the bill) to "consider the effect of the practice of project fire risk and forest regeneration," and prohibits implementing the project unless the Secretary certifies that the practice or project will not increase fire-risk or decrease forest regeneration.

Aye: On passage Passed by recorded vote: 243-182 (Roll no. 151). H.R. 4200, Forest Emergency Recovery and Research Act.

HONORING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF LARRY KIRK

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Rutherford County's Larry Kirk, who will retire on June 30, 2006, from the Murfreesboro Electric Department after 24 years of outstanding service.

Larry has been in the electricity business for 40 years and started working for Murfreesboro Electric Department in 1982. He transferred to Murfreesboro after working in Chattanooga for 13 years and working for Mississippi Power & Light for three years.

Under his leadership, Murfreesboro Electric Department has grown from 15,000 to 45,000 customers as the population of the city has doubled.

Active in his trade, Larry has served as the President of the Tennessee Municipal Electric Power Association. He has also served on the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Public Power Association and currently serves on the Middle Tennessee Industrial Development Association Board of Directors.

Larry has served his country, as well as his community. During the Vietnam era, he served in the U.S. Army Special Forces and the Special Forces National Guard. He has served on the Board of Directors of the Rutherford County Chamber of Commerce and United Way of Rutherford and Cannon Counties, where he was once chairman and president. He has served on the Board of Directors of Heart of Tennessee Chapter of the American Red Cross, and he has donated an astounding 14 gallons of blood over the years.

Upon retirement, Larry plans to devote more of his time to his love of Middle Tennessee State University athletics. Although Larry is a graduate of Ole Miss and Delta State, MTSU is his adopted university. He has served on the Board of Trustees of the MTSU Development Foundation and is an active member of the Blue Raider Athletic Association, where he once served as president.

I commend Larry Kirk on his numerous accomplishments and his involvement within the Murfreesboro community. I wish him all the best in his retirement.

A WELL DESERVED TRIBUTE TO BENNETT CAREER INSTITUTE'S BRIGHTEST SHINING STAR, MS. BRENDA C. ARNOLD

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ms. Brenda C. Arnold, one of Bennett Career Institute's most dedicated, compassionate and qualified instructors. I applaud Ms. Arnold for all that she has done over the years to nurture, motivate, and

instill confidence in the students who have crossed her path. In her own special way she touches the lives of so many daily.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Arnold is indeed the human catalyst at Bennett Career Institute who stimulates the cosmetology students in a very unique and special way. While encouraging the students to maximize their greatest potential, Ms. Arnold lets them know that she expects nothing but the best that they have to offer. Because of Mr. Chett Bennett, Chief Executive Officer, Ms. Arnold, Freshman Instructor, and other qualified and dedicated instructors, the Bennett Career Institute has grown over the years in leaps and bounds. The opportunities and exposure that this Institute provides to its students is unsurpassed.

Mr. Speaker, I have learned that Bennett Graduates who have taken instruction under Ms. Arnold, in past years eagerly return to Bennett Career Institute to pay tribute to her and to express their gratitude for the positive ways that she touched their lives. They return frequently to Bennett Career Institute to say "thanks" to Ms. Arnold for her role in enhancing their quality of life.

Mr. Speaker, in addition to the experience at Bennett Career Institute, Ms. Arnold has provided instruction and held management positions at various other Institutions in the District of Columbia. She has worked as a Manager at Jazzmin's Hair Gallery; a Sales Representative with Barry Fletcher Products; as an Instructor with Parvane Institute of Esthetics; as an Instructor with the District of Columbia Beauty Academy; as a Freelance Stylist and Consultant with Added Attraction; as an Educational Therapy Assistant with the District of Columbia Public Schools—Central Diagnostic Placement Center; and as a Director and Instructor with Image Makers Beauty Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my Congressional Colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to help me pay tribute to this bright star, Ms. Brenda C. Arnold, for rekindling the life of so many of our young citizens who, but for her, may have gotten distracted and gone astray joining the ranks of far too many others who are still searching for direction and their station in life.

Mr. Speaker, I wish God's continued blessings upon Ms. Brenda C. Arnold, Mr. Chett Bennett, other members of the Faculty, Administrative Staff and the student body of Bennett Career Institute.

TRIBUTE TO KEN BORELLI

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise in gratitude to recognize the social services and social work practices of Mr. Ken Borelli so valued by the residents of Santa Clara County today. Mr. Borelli has worked with the Santa Clara County Social Services Agency for 36 years. I first met Ken over 25 years ago when I was a member of the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors which had responsibility for funding the Department of Social Services and providing oversight for the Department. Ken was a standout then and he has remained so to this day. He began his career as a Social Work

Supervisor in the Food Stamps Unit and moved throughout the Social Services system to include: the Multicultural Child Welfare Unit, Basic Services, Adult Protective Services, Immigration, Social Work Coordinator, Voluntary Foster Home Intake and Coordinator of Special Projects.

Mr. Borelli developed the first Immigration Services Unit for Santa Clara County in 1974, where he worked closely with neighborhood youth groups. In fact, Ken is an expert and leader in the field of Immigration Services and has exhibited his accomplishments in many ways. He not only provided professional development training in the field of immigration, but also significantly contributed to the development of the 1990 Federal legislation which established "Special Immigrant Juvenile Status" laws to help immigrant children in the Child Welfare System across the country. Ken also was responsible for the development of an invaluable "Immigration Resource and Practice Guide" which helped so many families. Ken accomplished other written work in the field of Social work practice including topics such as: Child Welfare, International Social Services, and Domestic Violence. Mr. Borelli continues to remain involved in all levels of social service issues, including: child welfare abuse issues, dependency court investigations, AIDS research and fund-raising, immigration, and development and enhancement of our library systems. His participation in Committees and Advisory Boards included: the Multi-Disciplinary Interview Committee of the Child Abuse Council of Santa Clara County (20 years), the Alum Rock Library Committee, the County Library Commission, the Advisory Board of the Eastside Athletic Club, and the Board of Catholic Charities Immigration Services.

Mr. Borelli is a prominent leader in the community and continues to demonstrate his innovative contributions. He was a founding member and Chair for 20 years of the Social Service Agency's AIDS Services Committee. He is a supporter of the Opera San Jose and is being honored as "2006 Volunteer of the Year" by the Italian American Foundation. I hereby honor Ken Borelli, on the closure of this chapter of his life, but know he will continue to have a tremendous impact on social services in the county.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF DAMU AMIRI IMARA SMITH

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Damu Amiri Imara Smith, a prolific fighter for justice and peace who succumbed to colon cancer on May 5th of this year. In keeping with his long and distinguished career of activism, Damu continued his fight until the very end. Helped along the way by his "Army of Angels" and inspired by his enduring love for his daughter Asha, Damu outlived all the doctors' predictions. Not letting his terminal diagnosis dampen his spirit, he turned his personal health crisis into a fight for better health care services for black and poor people.

Just as Damu's resolve to speak truth to power was not constrained by his illness, nei-

ther did his sense of justice know any limit. Damu's concerns and actions ranged from the local to the global. He started out fighting for the Martin Luther King holiday and against the apartheid regime in South Africa. Later, his concerns expanded to include environmental justice; he monitored corporate pollution on Louisiana's Gulf Coast as national associate director for Greenpeace USA. He sought to unite the civil rights and environmental movements by founding the National Black Environmental Justice Campaign, which led the nationwide fight against contaminated water and waste dumps in poor and black communities.

Damu furthered his concern for peace and nonviolence at home and abroad as the associate director of the American Friends Service Committee's Washington Bureau. He confronted police brutality and worked to end gun violence in the District of Columbia while advocating for an international freeze on nuclear weapons. He saw health disparities and the lack of adequate health care as another form of violence, and added his efforts to the campaign for universal health care. After September 11th, Damu founded Black Voices for Peace. Continuing in his fearless tradition of speaking truth to power, Damu took on the Bush administration for spending billions of dollars on the Iraq war, money that could have been used for health care, education and basic services here at home.

Damu's voice is something that we'll all dearly remember. I was privileged to be a guest on his WPFW radio show, "Spirit in Action," a number of times and I will remember Damu Smith not only for being a tireless advocate for peace and justice, but for the generosity of his spirit. He could spend his entire program excoriating Condoleezza Rice or Colin Powell, and then end by saying, "But you know I love you." He was able to rise above all of the injustices he spent his life fighting to recognize his opponents' humanity. That kind of bigheartedness is sorely lacking in America's public discourse today. We Members of Congress could stand to learn a thing or two from Damu Smith, and though he is no longer with us in body, but his spirit will live on, as always, in action.

HONORING DR. ROBIN LOWITZ

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Robin Lowitz on the occasion of her receipt of the prestigious Tikkun Olam Award from the Jewish Community Center of Sonoma County (formerly the Jewish Community Agency). The "Healing the World" Award is bestowed upon an individual who demonstrates this Jewish Value and Obligation of dedication, perseverance, creativity plus giving time, energy, talents and resources to make an important social justice impact on the quality of life in a community.

Robin Lowitz saw a great need in Sonoma County and preceded to fill it by envisioning and implementing The Jewish Community Free Clinic, a medical clinic specifically for the uninsured—"the working poor, barely able to make ends meet who fall through the cracks."

A Berkeley, California, native, Dr. Lowitz had volunteered for several faith-based free

medical clinics in the Bay Area in the 1990's. Upon arriving in Sonoma County and witnessing the need first-hand, she garnered volunteers and financial support from the Jewish Community, synagogues, and other groups and individuals. In October, 2001, she opened the Jewish Community Free Clinic in a space donated by the Lions Club of Petaluma.

That first night there were 6 patients and 15 volunteers. The Clinic now provides 2,500 free medical care visits to over 1,000 uninsured patients annually, offering free medical care for anyone in need, without regard to ethnicity, race or religion. The vast majority of patients are uninsured Latino immigrant men, women, and children (many of whom need immunizations and physicals in order to attend school). They also serve uninsured single parents, students, the elderly, homeless, and temporary/unskilled workers.

The medical equipment at the Clinic is donated, and its 100+ volunteers come from all sectors of the community—including the communities it serves. Fifteen volunteer physicians, with as many nurses, nurse practitioners and physician assistants rotate each week, supplemented by a large referral network of volunteer physician specialists. Volunteers also offer social work, growth and development monitoring, safety awareness in Spanish and English, Spanish language interpreting and community resource referrals.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to offer my congratulations to Dr. Robin Lowitz. She had the commitment, passion, and energy to make the Jewish Community Free Clinic a reality for the people of Sonoma County and truly exemplifies the spirit of Tikkun Olam, Healing the World.

TRIBUTE TO CORP. NEIL W. REID, POST 2358

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 70th anniversary of the Corp. Neil W. Reid Post 2358 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, created in 1936, and named after Neil W. Reid, the first casualty of World War I from Macomb County.

The Post was formed in 1936 by members of the Post in Mount Clemens who sought to establish a separate post in the Village of Roseville. At its foundation, the Corp. Neil W. Reid was operating out of the old township hall and had 24 members. Shortly after, the Ladies Auxiliary of the Post was chartered, made up of 20 former servicewomen and wives, mothers, sisters, and daughters of veterans.

In 1939, members of the Post received a charter from the Military Order of the Cooties, formed to better the metal attitude of bed-ridden soldiers through hospital visitation and fundraising activities.

By the end of World War II the membership of the Post had grown to 175. This growth was recognized in 1950 when the National Commander of the VFW visited the Post's Home, an honor that few Posts throughout the nation have received.

In 1958, Mildred Mueth, a member of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Post, was elected

President of the organization in the State of Michigan, and one year later, Post member Fred McDaniel was elected to the position of commander in the State of Michigan. McDaniel would go on to coordinate the National Convention of the VFW, held in Detroit in 1960.

The Post continued to grow, and during the 1960's and 1970's expanded and remodeled its Home several times. With the added space, the Post became an important community institution, hosting baby showers, birthday, anniversary, and retirement parties, as well as funeral lunches.

Over the years, the Post has been an important fundraiser for the Roseville Police and Fire Departments, the Roseville Community Schools Scholarship Foundation and has been active in raising money for several other charities as well. The Post has been rewarded with numerous awards for Community Service, Americanism, and Youth Activities, demonstrating its involvement and commitment to the local community.

Today, the Post helps veterans in need of medical care and other assistance, and has been active in providing household goods to soldiers in Iraq.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Corp. Neil W. Reid, Post 2358, and its Ladies Auxiliary on the occasion of their 70th anniversary. These organizations have been an important and active force in aiding local veterans as well as the community as a whole.

IN TRIBUTE TO ROBERT B.
WEGMAN

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise with sadness today to honor Robert B. Wegman, chairman of Wegmans Food Markets, Inc., who died on April 20, 2006, at the age of 87. Mr. Wegman was surrounded by his family, as he passed away peacefully in his hometown of Rochester, NY.

Mr. Wegman made his mark as a pioneer in the supermarket industry, transforming the conventional grocery store into a superstore, emulated by others across the country. Mr. Wegman's passion for business began as a child, when he worked in the family store operated from the front of his grandmother's home. He developed a philosophy that has served as the foundation for the company. He believed: "I am a merchant and I have, therefore, my own philosophy about merchandising. That is: To do something that no one else is doing, and to be able to offer the customer a choice that she doesn't have at the moment." Mr. Wegman embodied the American entrepreneurial spirit from the start, and proved to be one of the most successful businessmen in the grocery store industry.

From the beginning, Mr. Wegman made it his goal to make Wegmans supermarkets the finest chain in the country—he was not concerned if it was the fastest growing, but more with growth itself. In 1930, Mr. Wegman and his brother received national attention with the opening of their innovative grocery store. The 20,000-square-foot store was unlike anything

seen before—it featured modern techniques for keeping produce fresh with vaporized water spray and refrigerated food displays. Over the next 56 years, Mr. Wegman transformed his store with the concept of one-stop-shopping. He imported fine cheeses, and wine, ethnic foods, and introduced patisseries and prepared foods into the grocery stores. In the 20th century, Wegman integrated pharmacies, photo labs and video departments into his stores, propelling the model for customer convenience to its highest levels.

Wegmans Food Markets has expanded to now over 70 stores, and the company is now as well known for its corporate responsibility as it is for exceptional customer service. Wegmans Food Markets has been named one of 'The Top 100 Companies to Work For' by Fortune magazine several years in a row, and in 2005 was ranked #1 as the best company to work for in the nation. Fortune's annual ranking of companies is determined by the number of employees and is measured by benefits, job growth, pay, percentage of minorities and women, and turnover. For example, Wegmans provides a scholarship program which has given close to \$60 million in tuition assistance to its employees. Although the superstore helped to shape the Rochester community, Robert Wegman has crafted his company into one that serves as a national model, both for its corporate success and for the opportunities and environment he has provided for his employees.

Mr. Wegman is also highly admired for his philanthropy. In 1995, he and his wife, Peggy, announced a 10-year, \$25 million gift in support of Catholic education, allowing hundreds of families to choose Catholic education in the Rochester-area community. Mr. Wegman also made considerable contributions to Aquinas Institute high school, giving \$10 million to the school for new athletic facilities and a fine arts center. In 1997, Wegmans Food Markets became the title sponsor of the Wegmans Rochester LPGA (Ladies Professional Golf Association); with proceeds supporting camps for disabled children. Most recently, Mr. Wegman contributed a combined \$13 million to St. John Fisher College, which will be used for the establishment of the Wegmans School of Pharmacy and the Wegmans School of Nursing.

Mr. Wegman's pursuit of excellence is portrayed in every aspect of his life: family, community, and corporate responsibility. He will be remembered as a pioneer and leader of his industry and for his extraordinary compassion and generosity.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Robert Wegman.

CONGRATULATING LIEUTENANT
COLONEL THEO F. MIDDLETON,
JR., ON RECEIVING THE LEGION
OF MERIT AWARD

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Colonel Theo F. Middleton, Jr. on receiving the Legion of Merit Award.

The Legion of Merit Award is a military decoration of the United States armed forces, which is awarded for exceptionally meritorious

conduct in the performance of outstanding services and achievements. We congratulate Colonel Middleton on being awarded this medal.

Colonel Middleton is a native of Mobile, who attended UMS Preparatory School and completed the ROTC training program at Marion Military Institute. After graduating from Louisiana State University, Colonel Middleton was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army. His initial assignment was to the Korean Demilitarized Zone as Rifle Platoon Leader. Following training as an Army helicopter pilot, Colonel Middleton was assigned as an Aero-Scout Platoon Leader. He is a founding member of Task Force 158, which is the U.S. Army's first long range, night vision capable special operations helicopter unit. He presently serves as the congressional district commander for Alabama's First Congressional District.

Colonel Middleton's other awards and decorations include the Army Commendation Medal, Army Reserve Commendation Medal, Korea Defense Service Medal, Overseas Service Ribbon, and Master Army Aviator wings.

Colonel Middleton served as past president of the Mobile County Wildlife Conservation Association, as well as the Greater Mobile Area LSU Alumni Association. He is an investment advisor with the Wealth Management Group of Regions/Morgan Keegan in Mobile.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Colonel Ted Middleton on receiving his award. I acknowledge his invaluable work and significant contribution to not only the state Alabama but our Nation as well.

IN HONOR OF OFFICER SKERSKI
AND PEACE OFFICERS MEMO-
RIAL DAY AND POLICE WEEK

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Ms. SCHWARTZ of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to address the House for five minutes and to revise and extend my remarks.

This past Friday, I attended the funeral of Philadelphia Police Officer Gary Skerski. I saw the pain of his wife Anne, 13-year old son Robert, and 10-year old daughter Nicole—a pain that may dull with time, but will never go away.

They lost a husband and a father. And Philadelphia lost one of its finest.

Officer Skerski was a community relations officer, and a 16-year veteran of the force. And, on May 8th at 10 pm, Officer Gary Skerski was murdered in the line of duty.

Gary was working overtime when he and his partner responded to a robbery call. He entered a neighborhood watering hole to stop a gunman who was terrorizing patrons and staff. Gary was shot in the neck by a cold-blooded killer who has no regard for the law and no regard for life. Gary never even had a chance to draw his gun.

Officer Skerski worked to protect the families, homes, and businesses of Northeast Philadelphia. He interacted with my staff often, and I had the pleasure of meeting Gary at a community meeting just this past winter.

Gary was, however, far more than a respected member of our police force. He was a loving husband for more than 18 years, he was the proud father of two, and he was an active, well-recognized, and beloved member of Port Richmond—a home to many Philadelphia police officers.

I rise today to pay tribute to Officer Gary Skerski and in remembrance of the 56 United States law enforcement officers who have died this year in the line-of-duty.

These brave men and women in uniform have given their lives while protecting our communities. These brave men and women died while enforcing and upholding our laws. And, these brave men and women left behind family, friends and colleagues for the benefit of others.

Our nation must never forget their contributions to the safety, security and betterment of our neighborhoods. I know I and my staff will not forget Gary, his sense of dedication, and the contributions he made to our community.

Mr. Speaker, my thoughts and prayers are with the Skerski family during this very difficult time. And, I know that all of my colleagues, and all Americans, join me in honoring Officer Gary Skerski and all of the officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed Roll Call vote 159. Had I been present, I would have voted "Aye" for 159. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my statement appear in the permanent RECORD immediately following these votes. H. Res. 740, Roll Call No. 159, Vote "Aye".

FOREST EMERGENCY RECOVERY AND RESEARCH ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 17, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4200) to improve the ability of the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior to promptly implement recovery treatments in response to catastrophic events affecting Federal lands under their jurisdiction, including the removal of dead and damaged trees and the implementation of reforestation treatments, to support the recovery of non-Federal lands damaged by catastrophic events, to revitalize, Forest Service experimental forests, and for other purposes:

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Chairman, I would have hoped to be able to rise today to support a bill that strengthened our existing law in caring for and protecting our environment. Unfortunately, this is not so.

When the Forests Emergency Recovery and Research Act was introduced, I did not consider it perfect, but I felt that the intent was

good. I had faith that as the bill moved through committees, any weaknesses or inconsistencies would be amended, and that ultimately we would have on the floor a bill that I would want to support.

Unfortunately, this does not seem to be the case. The bill purports to provide for emergency recovery projects to help lands heal from natural disasters such as floods and fires, when in fact it imposes unnecessary exemptions from provisions in the Clean Water Act, the National Historic Preservation Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, and the Endangered Species Act.

New research and peer-reviewed science is emerging that verifies that post-disturbance or post-fire logging destroys wildlife habitat, pollutes watersheds, and delays a forest's ability to regenerate itself. In fact, what some term "salvage logging" may even increase the risk of fire.

These studies have indicated that ecosystems have an amazing ability to recover quickly from fires; in fact, fires are needed for regeneration and re-growth. Forests are, in fact, much like the legendary Phoenix, experiencing a majestic rebirth from ashes periodically. Dead or damaged trees help to insulate ground-level growth and absorb moisture, preventing fire. These "snags" also serve as protective homes for multitudes of wildlife before they decompose and return sustenance to the soil.

At stake here, however, is writing into law land management practices that are quickly proving themselves not only out of date, but detrimental to the environment. We must remember that fire clean-up and logging profit is not the only goal—our main goal should be to preserve these forests for posterity.

Therefore I can not support this bill in its current form, and I encourage my colleagues to vote against an act that attempts to undermine existing environmental protections and damage delicate ecological balance.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DR. WILLIAM F. HARVEY

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. William F. Harvey who donates his optometric services to the Paiute Tribe Health Services, and the Las Vegas Blind Center.

Dr. William F. Harvey was born in Las Vegas, Nevada, on November 2, 1948. Dr. Harvey attended Western High School in 1967 before finishing his undergraduate education at Brigham Young University in 1972. Dr. Harvey graduated at the top of his class at Illinois College of Optometry in 1976 and moved back to Las Vegas to start his private practice.

Dr. Harvey works hard in his private practice and is a devout husband, father of three, and grandfather of six; however, he still reserves time to serve the community. Since 1993 Dr. Harvey has donated his time to the Las Vegas Blind Center and continues to serve the Paiute Tribe Health and Human Services, giving their patients free optometric care.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Dr. William F. Harvey on the floor of the House. I commend him for his continued service to the residents of southern Nevada.

RECOGNIZING THOMAS MERSHON FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Thomas Mershon, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 98, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Thomas has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over any years Thomas has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Thomas Mershon for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO WILBERT "BILL" TATUM, RECIPIENT OF THE 2006 "HUDSON LINK'S BILL WEBBER AWARD"

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a dear friend and colleague on the occasion of a very special awards recognition to honor him with the Hudson Link's Bill Webber Award.

Wilbert "Bill" Tatum has been an integral part of the fabric of New York for many, many years. When I think back on the years of our association many thoughts come to mind. Bill is not only an intellectual, in the best sense of that word, but a pioneering journalist, and entrepreneur who for more than 30 years has guided the Amsterdam News, one of the Nation's most important newspapers. In doing so, he has dedicated his professional life to informing and defending his people, building his community, and fighting to make our country better.

In April 1971, when he, along with Percy Sutton and Clarence Jones, acquired the Amsterdam News, Bill Tatum was determined to play a role in changing the social climate in New York. By the mid-1970's the newspaper took what some called militant positions on civil rights issues but by the end of the decade began to focus more broadly on the social and economic issues. Under Bill's leadership, the Amsterdam News continued to flourish and gained a reputation as an intrepid African American voice on controversial local issues.

Most New Yorkers can remember how tenacious Bill Tatum was when he applied pressure on the then New York mayor, Ed Koch. Bill, through the newspaper, constantly monitored the activities of city hall and the mayor. Holding the mayor's feet to the fire, brought New Yorkers out of the polls, and cleared the way for the election of David Dinkins, New York's first African American mayor.

I would like to acknowledge that Bill's daughter, Elinor, continues the Amsterdam News' legacy into the 21st century. She has pledged to keep the Amsterdam as the unwavering voice the Black community in New York.

Mr. Speaker, again I congratulate my friend Bill Tatum as a much deserving recipient of the prestigious "Hudson Link's Bill Webber Award" as I enter this recognition into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

HONORING THE EDGEWOOD
BULLDOGS GOLF TEAM

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to honor the Edgewood Bulldogs golf team who recently won the Texas University Interscholastic League State 2-A Championship.

On Thursday and Friday, May 11–12, 2006, the golf team competed in the University Interscholastic League Championship tournament at the Jimmy Clay Golf Course in Austin, Texas, for the State Championship. The Bulldogs competed against 200 other 2-A schools, holding to a one-stroke lead that brought home their first ever Boys Golf Championship and second team title in Edgewood High School history.

Today I would like to congratulate Head Coach Stan Williams, and players Dillon Phillips, Brett Perry, Garrett Cecil, Justin King, and Michael Waites.

As the Congressional representative of the players, families, coaches, and supporters of the Edgewood Bulldogs, it is my pleasure to recognize their tremendous victory and outstanding season.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5386) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes:

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the resolution expressing the Sense of Congress that calls for mandatory reductions of greenhouse gas emissions to address global warming.

There is no doubt in my mind that global warming is happening and that man is contributing to it. Now, it is our responsibility to work to mitigate the impacts of potentially catastrophic climate change.

The year 2005 is currently tied for the warmest year on record with 1998. However, the warmth in 2005 is remarkable because, in

contrast to 1998, it was not boosted by El Niño. And since 1990, we've had the 10 hottest years on record.

Hurricanes are getting stronger, heat-waves are hitting harder and more often, and the polar ice cap and Greenland's ice are melting. We must act now.

We need to deal with climate change with concerted action and with bipartisan dialogue, regional cooperation and an alliance between industry and environmentalists.

The threat from global warming is very real, and we must act now to combat potentially catastrophic climate change. We cannot leave this legacy to our children and grandchildren.

We simply will not have a world to live in if we continue our neglectful ways.

HONORING THE CONGREGATION
ETZ CHAIM ON ITS 30TH ANNI-
VERSARY

HON. TOM PRICE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, this Sunday, May 21, 2006, the Congregation Etz Chaim of Marietta, Georgia will mark its 30th anniversary. As the first Jewish congregation in Marietta, Etz Chaim has grown from its beginning in 1975 to be a leader today in the Jewish community of Atlanta.

In celebrating their commitment to faith and service, the congregation is honoring two of their most distinguished members: Judy and Stan Fineman. Over the years, Judy and Stan have dedicated their time and energy to Etz Chaim with a selfless devotion. They share in the excellent reputation and tradition of this congregation, and I applaud their generous contributions to our community.

On this anniversary, we have the opportunity to reflect on the message of excellence and altruism Etz Chaim has brought to Marietta. Spurred by their spiritual leader Rabbi Shalom Lewis and embodied in each individual member, the principles of the message of Etz Chaim are as important today as they were 30 years ago: A "commitment to our faith and tradition, community service, giving to others, life long learning, and the passing of Judaism from generation to generation."

It is my privilege to join Congregation Etz Chaim in looking forward to a future of continued growth and service to others.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO PATTY SUE
HUTCHINSON

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Patty Sue Hutchinson to celebrate the anniversary of the McFadden Insurance Agency, which she started 25 years ago.

Patty Hutchinson was born on March 25, 1933 in Springfield, Missouri. After graduating as Valedictorian of her high school in 1950, she started in the insurance business the very next week. Her first time out of her small town she had no formal education on the insurance

business she received on the job training due to the lack of insurance education classes at the time.

In 1952, she married Bob Hutchinson, and due to his Air Force career they were transferred first to Anchorage, Alaska then to Nellis Air Force Base in Las Vegas, NV. Patty worked for various independent agents and adjusters after moving to Las Vegas. After the birth of her first child she went to work for Farmers Insurance Company when they opened their first claims office in Las Vegas. When her second child was born she decided to work part time for Key Adjustment Company. When deciding to return to full time employment Patty returned to work for Peccole Insurance Agency. In 1960, she was rehired at Key Adjustment Company. In 1966 she was requested by a former Key Adjustment Employer, to move with him to Horsey Insurance Agency as an office manager and commercial underwriter. In 1979, she took insurance courses, receiving her Certificate for General Principles of Insurance from the Insurance Institute of America. She soon after took the State test and became an agent. Patty then joined with John McFadden opening McFadden Insurance as a 50 percent partner in 1981.

Her commendations include: the Insurance Women's Association of Las Vegas' Woman of the Year, President of the Nevada Independent Insurance Agents from 1983–84, Education Chairperson for the Nevada Independent Insurance Agents, the Nevada Insurance Education Foundation Trustee, and was the first woman to go through the chairs and serve as President of the Independent Insurance Agent's of Southern Nevada. Patty has received many awards with the Nevada Independent Insurance Agents, and most recently in 1996 was Insurance Person of the Year for the University of Nevada Las Vegas's Institute for Insurance and Risk Management.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Patty Sue Hutchinson for her years of service and her many successes in the insurance industry.

RECOGNIZING ANDREW MEYERS
FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF
EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Andrew Meyers, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 98, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Andrew has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Andrew has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Andrew Meyers for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING THE 81ST BIRTHDAY OF
MALCOLM X**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, on what would have been his 81st birthday, to enter the RECORD a salute to El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz, also known as Malcolm X. Malcolm X was a formidable character who was truly ahead of his time and very much under appreciated during his lifetime. He remained an advocate of racial pride and self-determination during a period in history where African Americans were systematically denied the rights enjoyed by white America.

Malcolm X's teachings focused on helping African Americans to deny negative stereotypes impressed upon them by the white society and also stressed economic empowerment through community building with other African Americans.

To understand the man is to know about his past. To understand the man is to know what life lessons affected his being. Born Malcolm Little on May 19, 1925 to a Baptist minister in Omaha, Nebraska his father was killed while attempting to fight racial oppression. His mother was committed to a mental institution. After moving to New York Malcolm was arrested in 1946 for burglary. Unbeknownst to him, his incarceration led to the first of many life altering experiences. During his incarceration he developed an interest in the philosophy of the Muslim movement and joined the Nation of Islam. Upon leaving prison in 1952 he changed his last name to "X". This change in surname signified the shedding of linkage to the white slaveholders who had given him and other African Americans their family names.

Under the tutelage of Elijah Muhammad, Malcolm flourished as one of the most effective speakers for the Nation. He increased membership and founded new mosques, eventually being assigned to be the Minister of the Nation's Harlem, New York mosque. In 1963, disagreements with Elijah Muhammad caused Malcolm to leave the Nation of Islam. In 1964 he embarked on a pilgrimage to Mecca, Saudi Arabia. That pilgrimage proved to be another life altering experience for Malcolm X. While in Mecca he witnessed the union of all races. His observances proved to be the foundation that led to the development of the Organization of Afro-American Unity and the Muslim Mosque Inc.

When he returned to New York, Malcolm gained an even more loyal following. His popularity was at a pinnacle. Malcolm's success did not fair well with many of the Muslim sect. He quickly became the victim of death threats from those who disagreed with his views. In February, 1965 his home was firebombed. His family escaped unharmed. A week later Malcolm X was shot to death at the Audubon Ballroom in Harlem as he prepared to make a speech.

Malcolm X had a profound influence on Americans of all races and all around the world. While he was often portrayed as a black militant leader because he encouraged Black Nationalism, separatism and black pride little was said to recognize him for creating a framework for world brotherhood and human justice.

Mr. Speaker: This cursory review that I offer does not do justice to the larger-than-life figure known as Malcolm X. I encourage everyone to read "The Autobiography of Malcolm X" to understand one of the 20th century's true Renaissance figures.

On this 81st anniversary of his birthday, I rise to honor an unforgettable and extraordinary individual who during his lifetime changed the world.

His conviction and devotion to instilling the concept of self empowerment in people of color still resonates today. He left an indelible mark on mankind. I wonder what Malcolm X would think of the world today?

HONORING MORGAN MAYSE OF
ATHENS HIGH SCHOOL**HON. JEB HENSARLING**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to honor Morgan Mayse of Athens High School for her first place finish in the Texas University Interscholastic League State 4-A Track and Field Meet.

On Friday May 12, 2006, Morgan competed at the University of Texas in Austin's Mike A. Myers Stadium for the Girls High Jump earning the gold with the record jump of 5'9".

As the Congressional representative for Athens and the Fifth District of Texas, I would like to congratulate Morgan, as well as her family, coaches, and supporters on her tremendous undefeated season and her second straight District 14-AAAA and Region II-AAAA titles.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5386) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes:

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of this amendment to protect clean water. For more than three decades, the Clean Water Act has been protecting all of our Nation's waters from unregulated pollution, filling and destruction.

However, in May 2002, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) finalized a rule that changed the definition of "fill material" for both the EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers (Corps). The new definition allows waste to be used to fill streams, wetlands and other waters.

Allowing coal mining spoil and other types of waste material to be dumped into our waters and wetlands is contrary to the central goal of the Clean Water Act: preserving physical, chemical and biological integrity of the Nation's waters.

While there may be a need for some regulatory changes so that the Corps and EPA use consistent definitions of "fill" material, this can and should be accomplished by ensuring that both agencies' definitions explicitly exclude the use of wastes to fill our Nation's waters—not, as proposed, to weaken the Corps' regulations to sanction this long-prohibited practice.

EHLERS-DANLOS SYNDROME
AWARENESS MONTH**HON. TOM PRICE**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, May is the first annual Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome (EDS) Awareness Month. Unfortunately, this syndrome, which affects nearly 60,000 Americans and 1.5 million people worldwide, is still largely unrecognized by the healthcare community.

In 1986, the Ehlers-Danlos National Foundation was established to research, support, and awareness for those suffering from this potentially debilitating illness. A heritable connective tissue disorder, EDS, in its most severe circumstances, weakens the vascular system making it rupture. This potential for complication is coupled with an inadequate level of funding and recognition which all too often leads to a lack of diagnosis or a misdiagnosis. Early detection is the key to an effective treatment and affords the individual suffering from EDS the opportunity to manage their syndrome and enhance the quality of life.

It is imperative that, in the absence of a cure, we in Congress join hands with the healthcare community to focus more attention on this matter. Accurate detection and sustained treatment will lead to a more fulfilling life for those afflicted with EDS. I am pleased to have this opportunity to applaud the efforts made by the brave men and women living with this illness as well as the countless friends, families and health professionals that have committed their time and expertise.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CANDY
SCHNEIDER**HON. JON C. PORTER**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Candy Schneider who is retiring after 33 years of service in the Clark County School District.

Candy has been a teacher of art, humanities and she is academically talented at the junior high school level as well as a Visual Arts Administrative Specialist with grades K-12 for over three decades. She has also served as the district liaison and coordinated the Congressional Art Contest for the past three years. During her career as an educator, Candy has also served as the Assistant Director of the School-Community Partnership Program, as Nevada Arts Council Chairwoman, as the chair of the Arts in Education Committee and on the Executive Committee. Among Candy's many achievements, she has

been honored with the Nevada Educator of the Year Award, the Excellence in Education Award and a National Gallery of Art State Scholarship. Candy is also a member of the Arts Council of Henderson and an honorary member of the Henderson Art Association.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Candy Schneider for her years of dedicated service to the students in the Clark County School District. Her passion is truly arts education and she has surely enriched countless lives with her tutelage. I wish her the best in her retirement.

RECOGNIZING BRANDON CRAIN
FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF
EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Brandon Crain, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 98, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Brandon has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Brandon has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Brandon Crain for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HORSERACING AND THE BLACK
JOCKEY—THE RETURN
TO CHURCHILL DOWNS AND KEN-
TUCKY DERBY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in appreciation of an article printed in New York's *CaribNews* entitled, "Horseracing and the Black jockey, the return to Churchill Downs and Kentucky Derby". Little is known about the history of Blacks in horseracing and how they dominated the sport, but it spans back from the 19th and early 20th centuries in the United States and Europe.

With such an illustrious and long history, why is it that such few Blacks are seen engaging in the sport? What we come to learn from the article is that because of racism and greed, Blacks were eliminated from the sport in North America. They were simply denied the chance to engage in horseracing, an activity loved by so many. Late tennis great Arthur Ashe made the case in his book, "A Hard Road to Glory", a history of the African American Athlete between 1619–1918, that "Black jockeys enjoyed an unprecedented streak of good fortune until racism forced them off the tracks. No civil rights groups came to their aid and then most had unfortunate endings."

In the article we learn about a man, Patrick Husband who grew up in a poor Barbadian neighborhood who with strong-will and determination was able to ride in the Kentucky Derby. He was not the first to do so, but his mere presence at the Derby that day brought admiration to all that watched. Truly this has become an inspiration for people up in those same neighborhoods as Husband. Witnessing these historic moments encourage Black youths to seek experience and careers as jockeys and trainers, a career once dominated by Blacks.

There is so much history to be studied and very few people know about it, nor do they have access to the information. Few people know that 14 of the 15 jockeys who participated in the inaugural year of the Kentucky Derby in 1875 were Black and that the first winner, Oliver Lewis atop Aristedes was Black. Another interesting fact was between 1875 and 1902, Black jockeys won 15 of the 27 Kentucky Derby races. This type of information should not be hidden from people. There was a time in racing history known as the "golden days" in which the greatest contributions were made by Black jockeys and trainers.

The youth of today should know the names of Isaac Murphy, Willie Simms, Jimmy Winkfield, Billy Walker, Alonzo Clayton, Isaac Lewis, Erskine Henderson and James Perkins who have made history for their achievements in racing in the United States from 1875 to 1911. These are names forever to be cherished and embraced by people everywhere. When L.P. Tralton, a famous trainer, died in 1896 he wrote in the *Thoroughbred Record*, "I have seen all of the great jockeys of England and this country for years back, but, all in all Isaac Murphy is the greatest of them all."

I enter into the RECORD with pleasure the article by Tony Best published in New York's *CaribNews* for its careful historical analysis of some of America's most talented yet sadly forgotten athletes. We must never forget the sacrifice Black jockeys have made for the sport of horseracing. The article helps in increasing the awareness about those who have made the sport what it is today and who rightfully deserve their place in the history books.

HORSERACING AND THE BLACK JOCKEY—THE
RETURN TO CHURCHILL DOWNS AND KEN-
TUCKY DERBY

When Patrick Husbands climbs aboard *Seaside Retreat* in Saturday's Run for the Roses, as the world famous Kentucky Derby is often called, his presence astride the horse will write another interesting chapter in the history of horse racing in the U.S.

It's a chapter that brings to mind the glory days of Blacks in the saddle in the 19th and early 20th centuries in the United States and their elimination from a sport in North America that attracts and holds people's attention around the world, the pernicious effects of racism and greed and now the return of Blacks to the pinnacle of a sport from which they should never have been driven out in the first place.

That Husbands, who grew up poor in a Barbadian neighborhood that's within walking distance of one of the Caribbean's leading race tracks, the Garrison Savannah, can make it all the way to Louisville, Kentucky, tells a story about sheer grit, determination and talent and recalls the era of the golden days of Black jockeys and trainers.

Granted, he is not the first Black to ride in the Derby since the turn of the 21st century. That honor belongs to an African American

from Louisiana who rode in the race in 2000. But his presence brings pleasure to tens of millions, not only racing fans in North America and the Caribbean but elsewhere. It can also inspire Black youth to seek careers as jockeys and trainers once again in a sport, a multi-billion dollar business that they once dominated.

Unfortunately, too few television viewers and horse racing fans who will watch the 2006 Kentucky Derby from the comfort of their living rooms, sports bars and other places and who will follow the course of the race in their car radios know that Husbands is simply adding his name to a long list of outstanding Blacks who have ridden in the Derby and various major races.

Indeed 14 of the 15 jockeys who rode in the inaugural year of the Kentucky Derby in 1875 were Black and the first winner, Oliver Lewis atop Aristedes was Black. Between 1875 and 1902, Black jockeys won 15 of the 27 Kentucky Derby races.

Names like Isaac Murphy, Willie Simms, Jimmy Winkfield, Billy Walker, Alonzo Clayton, Isaac Lewis, Erskine Henderson and James Perkins dot the pages of racing's history books for their accomplishments in the saddle between 1875 and 1911 in the U.S.

For example, Murphy, a native of Fayette County in Kentucky, became the toast of the horse racing fraternity in the 19th century, so much so that historians insist he was to the sport of kings what Michael Jordan became for basketball, Jessie Owens to track and field, Hank Aaron to baseball, O.J. Simpson, Jim Brown and Jerry Rice to American football, Sir Garfield Sobers to cricket and Tiger Woods to golf. That is the greatest performer in their sport.

Murphy rode winners three times in the Kentucky Derby, including back-to-back victories in 1890–1891; captured the Travers in 1879; the Saratoga Cup in 1881 and 1886; the Kentucky Oaks in 1884. At the height of his career in the late 19th century, he was making more than \$20,000 a year back then, in today's money, we are talking about millions of dollars.

When he died of pneumonia in 1896 at the age of 35 years, L.P. Tarlton, a famous trainer, wrote in the *Thoroughbred Record*, "I have seen all of the great jockeys of England and this country for years back, but, all in all Isaac Murphy is the greatest of them all."

In his book, *A Hard Road to Glory*, a History of the African-American Athlete between 1619–1918, Arthur Ashe, the late tennis great explained that "from roughly 1800 until the eve of World War I, Black jockeys had few peers in their profession."

He went on: "Black jockeys enjoyed an unprecedented streak of good fortune until racism forced them off the tracks. No Civil rights groups came to their aid and then most had unfortunate endings."

What a pity.

Most observers and historians blame the Jockey Club which was formed in 1894 to license riders for the disappearance of Black jockeys. Greed and racism were the major engines that systematically drove them out. The ebony-skinned riders were just too good and made too much money to suit the whites in charge, complained Ashe.

But Blacks weren't restricted to the saddle or to being grooms. Dating back to the colonial days and continuing long after the Revolutionary War and the Reconstruction period in America's history many of the trainers were Black.

Blacks in horse racing were the first to make a name for themselves in the business of sport.

Now that they are returning astride horses in growing numbers, jockeys from the English-speaking Caribbean, principally Barbados, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago are

leading the way in North America, especially in Canada where they are consistent winners.

Competitive sport, often called the product of western civilization, a people's desire for conquest, empires and exploration have spawned the Olympics and other major competitions, giving Blacks the chance to show that they can thrive in any area, where ability rather than skin color or place of birth is the means to success.

HONORING THE PALESTINE WILDCATS GOLF TEAM

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to honor the Palestine Wildcats golf team who recently won the Texas University Interscholastic League 3A State Championship.

On Friday, May 12, 2006, the Wildcats golf team competed at the Jimmy Clay Golf Course in Austin, Texas, for the High School Boys State Championship. The Wildcats shot a 2-day total of 594 to claim the University Interscholastic League Class 3-A Title. The Wildcats, who represented four out of the top five players in the tournament, were the only team not to have a single round in the 80's.

Today I would like to congratulate Head Coach Tommy Allison, and players Jacob Taylor, Nicholas Verela, Joseph Totah, Jeremy Lambright, and Steve Harrington.

As the Congressional representative of the players, families, coaches, and supporters of the Palestine Wildcats, it is my pleasure to recognize their tremendous victory and outstanding season.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN CLAYTON L. ADAMKAVICIUS

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Captain Clayton L. Adamkavicius, who died on April 21, 2006 in Afghanistan, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Captain Adamkavicius, who was assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 149th Armored Brigade, 35th Infantry Division of the Army National Guard was killed by small arms fire in the Uruzghan Province in the central part of Afghanistan. He was in the process of investigating a weapons cache when he fell.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor the life of Captain Clayton L. Adamkavicius. Captain Adamkavicius made the ultimate sacrifice for his country while fighting the War on Terror and defending democracy and freedom.

RECOGNIZING KYLE MURRAY FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Kyle Murray, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 98, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Kyle has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Kyle has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Kyle Murray for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

PANAMANIAN HONOR DR. MARCO A. MASON

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Marco A. Mason for all that he has done for the Panamanian community here and abroad. A distinguished academic, Dr. Mason has been directly involved in the community through various educational services and youth development for many years. He is very deserving of the honor being given to him.

Due to the fact that Dr. Mason has remained committed to the community for so long, The Panama Canal International Alumni Association Inc. (PCIAA) and The Panamanian American Community Center honored him for Distinguished Community Service at their fourth annual Spring Dinner Dance and Distinguished Awards Presentation, held at Crystal Manor in Brooklyn, New York.

Dr. Mason is also a medical sociologist and serves as an assistant professor of social and behavioral sciences at Medgar Evers College in New York City. He is also a member of an array of associations and councils including being a charter member of the Caribbean Women's Health Association (CWAHA), the Caribbean American Medical and the Scientific Association, the Caribbean American Social Workers Association as well as various other community action groups.

An academic at heart, Dr. Mason's primary field of study includes very pertinent topics such as the impact of United States immigration policy on ethnic communities, and the delivery of culturally competent health services to ethnic groups. He is well versed in his field and has written extensively on the subject.

He has contributed so much to not only the Panamanian people in the United States, but to those at home, too. Former New York State Senator Dr. Waldaba Stewart, who currently heads the Diaspora Research and Develop-

ment Center presented the award to Dr. Mason and he noted that, "under Dr. Mason's leadership for the past two decades, facilitate the growth of CWAHA to become a noted urban problem solver that creates innovative solutions to community issues with a focus on breaking the cycle of poverty".

Dr. Stewart makes it clear that Dr. Mason knows what it takes to keep one's community strong for future generations, and it starts with as Dr. Stewart points out, "grassroots initiatives".

I enter into the RECORD with great admiration the article published in New York's CaribNews for its recognition of such a true humanitarian. Dr. Mason without a doubt is deserving of the acknowledgment for all that he has done over the years. He should be recognized for his commitment to the fundamental belief that changes start at home in the community and he did his best to make others see just how much power they really had.

PANAMANIAN HONOR DR. MARCO A. MASON

The Panama Canal International Alumni Association Inc. (PCIAA) and The Panamanian American Community Center Inc., recently honored Dr. Marco A. Mason, for Distinguished Community Service. At their Fourth Annual Spring Dinner Dance and Distinguished Awards Presentation, held at Crystal Manor in Brooklyn, New York.

Dr. Mason is a Medical Sociologist. He serves as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences, at Medgar Evers College. He is the President of the Panamanian Council of New York Inc. He is also a charter member of the Caribbean Women's Health Association (CWAHA) the Caribbean American Medical and the Scientific Association, the Caribbean American Social Workers Association, among other community and professional organizations.

Dr. Mason also serves as a consultant to a number of private, community, public and international sector organizations. He is accredited to practice Immigration Law.

His principal scholarly interests include: U.S. Immigration Policy Impact on Ethnic Communities, and the Delivery of Culturally Competent Health Services to Ethnic Groups. He has written extensively on these topics.

He has a Doctorate in Social Welfare (Immigration and Health Policy) from the Graduate Center of the City University of New York.

Former New York State Senator Dr. Waldaba Stewart, head of the Diaspora Research and Development Center, presented the award to Dr. Mason and lauded Dr. Mason's solid track record in the Panamanian community at home and abroad.

He also stated that, under Dr. Mason's leadership for the past two decades, facilitate the growth of CWAHA to become a noted urban problem that creates innovative solutions to community issues with a focus on breaking the cycle of poverty through building diverse partnership and grassroots leadership initiatives.

CWAHA has concentrated its efforts on a variety of issues: Immigration, Youth Development, Public Health, Welfare Reform, Economic Revitalization and Community Empowerment.

Ms. Laura Thomas James, PCIAA's President stated that, PCIAA's objective is to keep the Panamanian Antillean culture and heritage alive and pass it on to future generation through cultural, educational, and social programs. She also stated that Panamanian American Community Center is a non-profit information and referral service that provides services to approximately 500

social support family, immigration, health, housing, legal, emergency shelter, child care, education, employment, cultural, citizenship and youth services. She also said that, this gathering of the finest women and men in our community allows us the opportunity to recognize the outstanding services and accomplishments of outstanding members of our community.

They deserve our best wishes and congratulations. In addition to Dr. Mason, other awardees include: Club El Pacifico, Inc., Ms. Petrona Pet Honeywell, Ms. Gloria A. Spencer Morgan, The Rev. Frank Elcock and Mr. William Ben Townsend.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 45TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PEACE CORPS

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my sincere congratulations to the men and women of the Peace Corps, which celebrates its 45th Anniversary this year.

Since its creation in 1961, over 180,000 men and women—including several of our colleagues in Congress—have served in the Peace Corps.

These Peace Corps Volunteers have made a difference in a very concrete and personal way. Over the last 45 years, these dedicated volunteers—through their talent, hard work, and dedication—have shown people in 138 countries the very best face of America.

From agriculture to business development to HIV/AIDS prevention, the Peace Corps is a vital, vibrant organization that promotes mutual trust, cooperation, and understanding between Americans and the countries in which they serve.

And course, I can't stand up here and talk about the Peace Corps without noting that the Director of the Peace Corps, Mr. Gaddi Vasquez, is a long-time resident of Orange County, California. I want to express my thanks to him and to all Peace Corps participants, for their hard work, their sacrifice, and their spirit.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CORPORAL SHAWN T. LASSWELL, JR.

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Corporal Shawn T. Lasswell Jr. who died on April 23, 2006 while in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and defending America.

Corporal Lasswell, who was assigned to C Troop, 7th Squadron, 10th Cavalry Regiment, 4th Infantry Division, died in Taji, Iraq when an improvised explosive device detonated near his military vehicle. Lasswell, who grew up in Alton, Illinois was laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor the life of Corporal Shawn T. Lasswell Jr. Corporal Lasswell made the ultimate sacrifice for his country while fighting the War on Terror and defending democracy and freedom.

RECOGNIZING ETHAN STOCKDALE FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Ethan Stockdale, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 98, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Ethan has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Ethan has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Ethan Stockdale for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO RON ZIMMERMAN

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Ron Zimmerman of Connersville, Indiana. He died this week in Afghanistan when a suicide bomber hit his vehicle while he was working as contractor on a U.S. State Department police training project.

Ron was working in Herat, Afghanistan, near the border with Iran and Turkmenistan. Among other things, he was training local police forces in methods of combating the illicit drug trade of opium poppies. He was in a convoy going to work to continue these training efforts when the vehicle he was traveling in was attacked by a suicide car bomber. He had been in Afghanistan since early April of this year.

Ron graduated from Connersville High School. Before going overseas, Ron served in the Fayette County Sheriff's Department, volunteered as a local firefighter, and most recently worked as a police officer in Brookville, Indiana. He left the police force in December 2004 to become a contractor. Prior to going to Afghanistan, he had worked for 1 year as a contractor training police forces in Kosovo.

Ron's courage and selfless dedication to others are shown through his willingness to travel to dangerous areas of the world in an effort to help those areas become safer and more secure. His wife Marla stated, "He was the type of person that felt like he had to do what he had to do. He was a very giving person."

I offer my deepest condolences to his wife, Marla; his two daughters, Mel Walker and Cheyenne Zimmerman, his son, Matt Walker, and all other family and friends who loved and admired this fine man.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NANCY L. JOHNSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 172 I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JAMES KELLY

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of James Kelly, who died Saturday, May 12, 2006.

James served the city of North Las Vegas for decades in a number of different capacities. He was a Justice of the Peace for 24 years, a former city council member, past President of the North Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce, and a past President of the Nevada Judges Association. James lived in North Las Vegas since 1959 and was very community-minded. He quietly led a life of public service.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor the life of James Kelly. His long and distinguished record of public service is admirable and should serve as an example to us all. He will be greatly missed by the city of North Las Vegas.

RECOGNIZING CHARLES K. LIGHT II FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Charles K. Light II, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 397, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Charles has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Charles has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Charles K. Light II for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

STRONG WOMEN STAND TALL

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, the week of May 14 thru 20, 2006 is designated by the Department of Health and Human Services as

National Women's Health Week, an effort to raise awareness about women can take to improve their health.

One disease that disproportionately affects women is osteoporosis. Often called a "silent disease" because bone loss occurs without symptoms, bones become fragile and are more likely to break with age.

Osteoporosis is a major public health threat for millions of Americans. Ten million individuals are estimated to already have the disease and almost 34 million are at risk of developing osteoporosis. Eighty percent of those affected by osteoporosis are women.

One program that is helping to spread awareness about osteoporosis is Strong Women Stand Tall—a new program to motivate women to join together and take action to protect their bone health. Friday, March 12, 2006 was declared as "Fuchsia Friday" to show solidarity among women and to raise awareness of bone health.

When women take even the simplest steps to improve their health, the results can be significant. It is important to action to find out your risk for developing osteoporosis. We need to stay informed and take responsible actions to improve our health.

Reducing our risk for this disease is a life-long process—it is never too early or too late to protect bone health. Women must recognize their risk for osteoporosis, educate themselves about how to stay strong and healthy, and empower other women to take charge of their bone health. I encourage all women to see their physician and have an osteoporosis screening.

DENOUNCING ANTI-IMMIGRANT HATE MESSAGES

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, it's been 4 years since 9-11, yet the Republicans in Congress and this President have failed to secure our borders and protect this country against future terrorist attacks.

Americans want and deserve better.

The country is depending on us to take action but this Administration and the Republicans in Congress have let us down over and over again.

The Democrats' plan offers real security that will protect America from harm.

It's time for Republicans to put politics aside and enact real reforms now.

It's time for Republicans to stop playing politics with our security.

Just take immigration reform, for example.

Instead of recognizing the need for real, comprehensive reform Republicans have used the border security issue to play on people's fears and exploit the debate for their political gain.

They've hijacked the debate to incite xenophobia in the minds of the American people! I want my colleagues to be aware that this rhetoric can provoke extremists to commit violence against immigrants.

Remember that words have consequences and set the tone for public debate.

Unfortunately, all over America racists are taking advantage of the immigration debate to voice their message of hate.

And they are using the media—which our Constitution protects—to do so.

Several years ago, I founded the Congressional Sex and Violence in the Media Caucus because I was disturbed by the messages our children were receiving.

As co-chair of this caucus, I have led the effort to help parents protect their kids from harmful and inappropriate content such as graphic sex and violence.

Now we must be on the lookout for racist content in the media.

On March 29, 2006, a New Jersey radio talk show host Hal Turner exclaimed, "... It is time to fight. To kill such invaders. ... If you don't fight AND don't support those of us who do, when we're done with them, we can come for you."

I recently learned about a racist game distributed freely on the Internet called "Border Patrol" that encourages Players to shoot at Immigrants as they cross into the United States.

The game first surfaced in 2002, but has come up once again amid the immigration debate.

This is obscene and crosses the line!

For years, White supremacists have used the Internet to get their messages out to as many people as possible.

But the use of computer video games is new.

They are deliberately targeting our children and recruiting them into their hate groups!

The fact that the national immigration debate is fueling their efforts is downright scary.

It just takes one individual with hate in his heart to act on these notions!

Border Patrol is one of several racist computer games that hate groups are currently for sale or download on the Internet.

Other games like "Ethnic Cleansing," "DriveBy 2" and "African Detroit Cop" were created to further racist, anti-Semitic or homophobic opinions.

Already, the National Alliance, a violent neo-Nazi group, is selling "Ethnic Cleansing" and is promising to market and sell similar games.

As the issue of comprehensive immigration reform has moved to the forefront of national policy debate, these hate-messages have grown more radical.

As the Aryan Nation's Web site puts it, "We now have another game animal to add to our list of available targets for our favorite pastime, hunting, and we'll declare permanent OPEN SEASON on these dirty wetbacks! From what I've heard through the grapevine the Skinheads and Klans across the country are more than prepared for this type of action. I say let's play by state and see which state can claim the most kills and let the jewsmedia whores keep score!"

This is a big real concern especially as the debate continues.

These extremist groups are going to gain momentum.

A report by the Anti-Defamation League shows that hate groups have organized numerous assaults against immigrants within this month alone.

As members of Congress, our first responsibility is the security of every American and of that means securing our borders.

But the outcome of this debate will speak volumes about how we embrace diversity in our communities and welcome foreigners in our society.

We cannot have this debate at the expense of the safety of immigrants in our communities.

I understand that not everyone in Congress agrees with a more inclusive vision of the American family.

But regardless of your position on immigration and border policy, I call on you to join me in condemning all the extremists who are hijacking this debate for their hateful agendas.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO FIRST SERGEANT CARLOS N. SAENZ

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of First Sergeant Carlos N. Saenz, who died on May 5, 2006 in Baghdad, Iraq, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and defending America.

Sergeant Saenz was assigned to the 490th Civil Affairs Battalion, 321st Civil Affairs Brigade, U.S. Army Reserves, died when an improvised explosive device detonated near his military vehicle. Sergeant Saenz, who resided in Las Vegas, Nevada, was laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor the life of First Sergeant Carlos N. Saenz. Sergeant Saenz made the ultimate sacrifice for his country while fighting the War on Terror and defending democracy and freedom.

RECOGNIZING CHRISTOPHER ADAM ROTH FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Christopher Adam Roth, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 98, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Christopher has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Christopher has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Christopher Adam Roth for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

BIOFUEL ACT OF 2006

HON. STEPHANIE HERSETH

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Ms. HERSETH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and address an oversight that occurred on legislation that I recently introduced in the House of Representatives. For

the past several months, I have been working with several of my House colleagues to draft a comprehensive bill that would significantly increase the production and utilization of renewable fuels in this country. The bill, H.R. 5372, is entitled the Bioenergy Innovation, Optional Fuel Utilization, and Energy Legacy (BIOFUEL) Act of 2006.

Throughout this process, one of my colleagues, the chairman of the House Democratic Caucus, JIM CLYBURN, was among the most helpful and enthusiastic supporters of this legislation. Prior to introduction of the bill, Chairman CLYBURN had made it clear to my office that he would like to be listed as an original cosponsor when the bill was introduced. Unfortunately, due to an oversight on my part, Mr. CLYBURN's name was not included on the bill as an original cosponsor, as it should have been. His name has since been added to the legislation but I regret this error and I wanted my colleagues to know of his invaluable contribution to the bill and that he should be considered an original cosponsor.

SUPPORT FOR WOMEN'S HEALTH WEEK

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of National Women's Health Week. It is during this week that the Office on Women's Health, within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, urges women to focus on their health.

It is a time when we need to tell all the women in our lives; our mothers, wives, sisters, daughters, aunts and friends how important it is to take time out for their health.

This can be as simple as taking the stairs instead of the elevator, eating healthier or scheduling an appointment with their healthcare provider.

A good relationship with your doctor is so important in maintaining your health. Women need to have conversations with their physicians regarding their family health history and the importance of recommended screening tests.

So, today, Mr. Speaker, I want to encourage all of America's women to take a moment to focus on promoting health and preventing disease and illness by taking simple steps to improve their physical, mental, social, and spiritual health.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JAMES "JIM" MAACK

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of James "Jim" Maack, who succumbed to cancer on May 4, 2006.

Jim was a newspaper carrier for the Boulder City News for 24 years, starting off with a small delivery route around Lake Mead Parkway and Van Wagenen Street, he took on larger routes until he was delivering papers to

stands and stores throughout the Henderson and Boulder City area. Jim was a good guy, with a great sense of humor, who always had a smile on his face.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor the life of James "Jim" Maack. He was a very special man who enriched the lives of all he encountered.

RECOGNIZING ALEXANDER DANIEL SHINN FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Alexander Daniel Shinn, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 98, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Alexander has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Alexander has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Alexander Daniel Shinn for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF DR. MICHAEL CHARLES

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Michael Charles on his 50th Music Anniversary. Born in 1946 in Kansas City, Missouri, his musical road began with singing locally in the Novice Choir at Mariah Walker A.M.E. in 1956. He is known as a "Son of Psalms" and as an individual whose name has become synonymous with excellence in sacred music in many religious circles.

Dr. Charles has sung individually and with various gospel and church groups, locally and across this country. He is fortunate to have performed at the Apollo Theater in New York City, and in many notable venues across our Nation. At one of his unforgettable engagements, Dr. Charles was able to meet and receive advice from the late, great, Mahalia Jackson, the First Lady of Gospel music.

Through his association with various gospel groups, churches, and church related associations, in 1992 the ultimate recognition, an Honorary Doctorate in Sacred Music, was bestowed upon him by the Maryland School of Theology and Theism of Baltimore, Maryland. On a more personal level, I have been honored to have Dr. Charles' expertise as the Minister of Music for Saint James United Methodist Church, of which I am the Senior Pastor. He has shown enormous energy while facilitating our music ministry which consists of

eight singing units, two liturgical dance groups, and a seventeen member music staff. This has lead to the recording of two compact discs, "I Will Lift Up Mine Eyes Unto the Hills," and "A Celebration of Praise."

Dr. Charles composed a tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. the day after he was assassinated, called "Freedom After While." This composition is sung as the finale each year at the Southern Christian Leadership Conference's Martin Luther King Celebration in Kansas City, Missouri. It is sung with such feeling and emotion that there is hardly a dry eye in the crowd. I may be biased in my praise of him because he is one of my parishioners, but I am privileged to hear Dr. Charles' music and deeply appreciate the time and care he takes with our congregation. May God continue to bless him and give him inspiration.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in expressing our heartfelt gratitude to Dr. Michael Charles for his fifty years of utilizing music as a means to bring people and God together, not only within the boundaries of Missouri's Fifth Congressional District which I represent, but within the United States and the entire global community. He represents the best in all of us. I urge my colleagues of the 109th Congress to please join me in congratulating Dr. Michael Charles on celebrating his 50th Musical Anniversary.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF MAYOR ROBERT S. BERNSTEIN

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the achievements of a man who exemplifies finest combination of civic consciousness, personal drive, and family responsibility. Robert S. Bernstein, Mayor of the Village of Lake Success, has been a catalyst, providing the means and motivation for the continued progress and success of this community.

Half century ago, Robert began his journey in public service as an Eagle Scout. During his tenure at Adelphi University, the student body elected him president of both his freshman and sophomore classes, and as president of the entire student government as a senior. Parallel with his college education, he joined the United States Naval Reserve, and served on active duty for 27 years, retiring at the rank of full Navy Captain. Since then he has served his community in a variety of different capacities: a member of the North Shore University Hospital Cardiology Leadership Committee, a Trustee and then Deputy Mayor of the Village of Lake Success, President of the Great Neck Village Officials Association, and currently as the Mayor of the Village of Lake Success.

Focusing his attention on his community, Robert has accomplished much to be proud of. As a trustee for the Village, he instituted its first Environment Committee in 1986, to promote clean air and water, as well as the safe enjoyment of the outdoors by keeping public land pesticide-free. As Mayor, he improved the infrastructure of the Village by tearing down an old building and building in its place a new Police Station and Courtroom (that doubles as a summer camp for resident children between the ages of three and six), a Community Center, and extra housing for those in need. Robert will step down from his municipal office,

after years of dedication, to focus his attention on developing emergency and disaster procedures, and continuing his focus on environmental issues affecting his community.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize such an accomplished individual and commend Mayor Robert Bernstein for his years of dedicated service. On behalf of his wife, three children, two grandchildren, and the Village of Lake Success, I ask the whole House of Representatives to join me in honoring Mayor Robert S. Bernstein, and wishing him many years of happiness and good health as he celebrates his well deserved retirement.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO PROFESSOR
HAL ROTHMAN

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Professor Hal Rothman, who has recently received the President's Medal which is the highest honor awarded by the University of Nevada Las Vegas.

Professor Rothman was selected for this honor based on the recommendation of a University Committee. The honor is granted only after serious consideration of a highly select group of faculty, and awardees must have demonstrated extraordinary qualities both as teachers and scholars and must have achieved national and international recognition in their fields of study.

Professor Rothman joined UNLV's department of history in 1992 and served as chair from 2002–2005. During his tenure, Professor Rothman received numerous awards for his scholarship, teaching and contributions to the academic environment in Las Vegas, including the Marjorie Barrick Distinguished Scholar Award, the Harry Reid Silver State Research Award, and the Alumni Association Distinguished Faculty Award. Professor Rothman is also a prolific author and has published numerous books and articles on a variety of topics, including tourism in the Western U.S., Las Vegas history, and the environment. He has won five prizes for his books and been named to the Nevada Writers Hall of Fame. Professor Rothman is considered one of the Nation's leading experts on tourism and post-industrial economies.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Professor Hal Rothman for his receipt of the University of Las Vegas President's Award. His demonstrated academic excellence and skillful tutelage have greatly enriched the academic caliber of the University and the quality of education for the students. I congratulate him for receiving this distinguished award and wish him the best in his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING JONATHAN MATTHEW LEONE FOR ACHIEVING
THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jonathan Matthew Leone, a very

special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 98, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jonathan has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jonathan has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned the numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jonathan Matthew Leone for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING MRS. PINKIE HARDY

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of Mrs. Pinkie Hardy of Eunice, Louisiana on the occasion of her 90th birthday.

Born May 19, 1916 in Washington, Louisiana, Mrs. Pinkie and her family moved to Eunice when she was just two years old. A self-educated woman, Mrs. Pinkie attended school until the seventh grade. During the years of the segregated south, African American children did not have a high school to attend in smaller communities like Eunice, and if their parents could not afford to send them to larger towns for a high school education, their schooling was limited to an elementary education. Despite this obstacle, as a girl Mrs. Pinkie developed a love for reading that has stayed with her ever since with the Bible being among her favorite things to read.

Mrs. Pinkie married Herman Hardy in 1936. Together, the couple had seven children and one stepson. They were married for 43 years until he passed away in 1979. During most of those years, Herman worked in the dry cleaning business and Mrs. Pinkie worked in food services at Charles Drew High School, which became Central Middle School when the local high schools were integrated in 1969. She continued to work there until she retired from the Louisiana school system in 1980. Mrs. Pinkie's children are now living and working in various states across the country, and many of them are now retired and pursuing second careers. She has 22 grandchildren and 23 great-grandchildren, and has always encouraged and stressed the importance of education and independence to all her children and grandchildren.

Mrs. Pinkie was and still is active in her church and community. A devout Catholic, she was one of the first Eucharistic Ministers in Eunice, and in 2002 received the Bishop's Medal from the Diocese of Lafayette for her achievements. She also served as State Deputy for the Knights of Peter Claver Ladies' Auxiliary, and was honored with an award for 50 years of service. In 1987, Mrs. Pinkie was presented with the Martin Luther King Jr. Award and in 1990, she was honored as Mother of the Year. Furthermore, in February 2005, she was presented with the "Woman Who Made a Difference" Award from the National Association of University Women. In ad-

dition, she has served as President of the Legion of Mary and St. Mathilda School Parent Teacher Association.

In her lifetime, Mrs. Pinkie has witnessed and made a great deal of history, living through some of the most tumultuous periods in our country's history, particularly in the years before and during the Civil Rights Movement. Throughout that time she has been a leader in her community and her family, providing wisdom and direction to all who know her.

One of her sons is married to my sister, so I know firsthand what a strong, caring, unique and inspirational woman Mrs. Pinkie is. As the leader and matriarch of her family, Mrs. Pinkie is who everybody turns to. She is the voice of reason and compassion for all her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, relatives, her church community and her friends, and continues to be a bright light we all look to for guidance.

Today, the friends and family of Mrs. Pinkie Hardy come together to celebrate the 90 incredible years during which we have been blessed to have her in our lives and the lives of our loved ones. On this very special day, I join all of them and the entire Eunice community in congratulating Mrs. Pinkie on this wonderful occasion, and in saluting her for her many years of service, leadership and dedication to helping others in her family and her community.

CONGRATULATING RICHARD COSGROVE WHO WAS AWARDED AN
HONORARY DOCTORATE DEGREE
BY KINGS COLLEGE

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Richard B. Cosgrove, of Pittston, Pennsylvania, who was recently presented with an honorary doctorate degree from King's College.

Mr. Cosgrove enjoys a reputation as the dean of local journalists in Northeastern Pennsylvania. After graduating from St. John the Evangelist High School in Pittston in 1941, he joined the staff of the Wilkes-Barre Times Leader in January, 1943. He later joined the staff of the Pittston Dispatch in 1947 in time for the publication of their very first edition on February 9.

Mr. Cosgrove continued his newspaper career with the Pittston Dispatch until the summer of 2000 when he joined the staff of the Wilkes-Barre Citizens' Voice as a correspondent, a position he continues to hold. He also served for several years as a local correspondent for the Scranton Tribune.

Richard is a son of the late George and Elizabeth Healy Cosgrove. Mr. Cosgrove's wife, the former Mary Neary, died in April, 1981. Their union was blessed with two sons, George B. Cosgrove, principal of the Pittston Area Middle School and Joseph M. Cosgrove, a practicing attorney in Luzerne County. His family also includes two granddaughters, Jill, a nurse at Geisinger Wyoming Valley Hospital and Mary Ann, a drug and alcohol counselor in Scranton.

Mr. Cosgrove has a long history of community service. He is a member and past president of the Wyoming Valley Sierra Club of Wilkes-Barre and he is a past district governor of District 80, Sierra International.

Mr. Cosgrove is also a member and past grand knight of President John F. Kennedy Council 372 of the Knights of Columbus in Pittston and a member of the council's Fourth Degree Assembly.

He is a member of the parish community of St. Casimir, St. John the Evangelist and St. Joseph Churches in Pittston where he serves as a Eucharistic Minister, an altar server and a member of the parish liturgy committee. He also performs bereavement counseling with those who have lost loved ones. He is also a past president of the parish's Holy Name society.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. Cosgrove on this auspicious occasion. His love for his community, his devotion to the pursuit of truth and his faithful service to his church have endeared him to many, many people and has earned him widespread respect. Mr. Cosgrove's contributions to his community have clearly improved the quality of life in the greater Wyoming Valley.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE
HONORABLE BERT M. GOLDWATER

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of the Honorable Bert M. Goldwater, who died on May 3, 2006.

Judge Goldwater attended schools in Reno and Stockton, California. He attended Stanford University for three years, and because of his lifelong battle with asthma, returned to the University of Nevada, Reno, where he graduated in 1936. He received his law degree from the University of Colorado in 1939, where he was the Editor of the Rocky Mountain Law Review. Judge Goldwater was admitted to the Nevada Bar in 1939 and practiced both civil and criminal law. He was later appointed the United States Bankruptcy Judge in October 1979. After retiring from the bench in 1982, he joined Lionel, Sawyer and Collins Law Firm, where he practiced private law for more than a decade. Judge Goldwater was recalled to serve as a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge by the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit in October 1994, where he served until his death.

Judge Goldwater was also very active in the Nevada Bar. He served as President of the Washoe County Bar Association, Secretary and Chairman of the State Board of Bar Examiners and Chairman of the National Conference of Bar Examiners. Judge Goldwater was also very passionate about education, serving as the president of the B.D. Billingshurst Junior High School P.T.A. and Chairman of the statewide Save Our Schools Committee. In the 1960's, he was appointed by the Nevada Legislature to serve as Chairman of the Citizens Committee on Taxation and Fiscal Affairs. He also served on the Nevada State Gaming Commission, the Nevada State Human Rights Commission, and was a 1964 alternate delegate to the Democratic National Convention.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of the Honorable Bert M. Goldwater. His dedication to justice and community are admirable and should serve as an example to us all. He will be greatly missed by the community.

RECOGNIZING LARRY REETER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I stand to recognize Larry Reeter, a lifelong resident of Livingston County, Missouri and the recipient of the Elks Citizen of the Year Award. Born in 1941, Larry has lived in Livingston County his entire life. He graduated from Chillicothe High School in 1958 and then went to serve his country honorably in the Army National Guard from 1959 to 1968. After 42 years of service as a lineman and construction supervisor for the Farmers Electric Co-op, Larry retired in March of 2004.

In service to his community, Larry joined the Calvary Baptist Church in 1961. Then he became a Deacon in 1970, was licensed to preach in 1979, and ordained as a minister in 1986. During that time he presided over services in the Ludlow Baptist Chapel, Calvary Baptist Church, and for 30 years at the National Guard Armory. He routinely fills in for churches in the area that are in need of a pastor and holds services at the Chillicothe Correctional Center. Larry has also donated his time to many families who have suffered the loss of a loved one or are experiencing an illness in the family, and he makes frequent trips to visit with people in the local hospitals and hospitals in Kansas City.

In his spare time in retirement, Larry continues his service by taking community members to their doctor appointments and to visit family members or friends in the hospital. He also makes presentations portraying Abraham Lincoln to the local elementary schools, giving young students a history of Lincoln's life and the strong values that he believed in.

I am proud to represent Larry Reeter as an outstanding member of our community and now as the recipient of the Elks Citizen of the Year Award. The residents of Livingston County appreciate his service and all of Northwest Missouri is proud to have him as one of our most valued citizens. It is an honor to represent him and I ask the United States Congress to extend their appreciation for his lifelong service.

TRIBUTE TO THE 2006 MIAMI HERALD/EL NUEVO HERALD SILVER KNIGHTS

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to 15 outstanding students in Miami-Dade County schools who were honored on May 16th at an impressive ceremony in the Dade County Auditorium. These 2006 Miami Herald/El Nuevo Herald's Silver Knights were cited for their

academic excellence and all-around leadership, as well as for their dedication to uplifting the lives of others. This honor reflects their personal achievement as "visionaries and role models" for whom we feel absolute pride and unique honor. These exceptional students represent the best and the brightest of our youth, and it is in this spirit of service and commitment to their fellow man that our community will rest assured of a bright future.

The awardees and their achievement areas are: Athletics—Amanda Estevez from Florida Christian School; Business—Stephanie Fink from Coral Gables Sr.; English—Gerardo Munoz from Miami Sr.; General Scholarship—Xavier Gonzalez from Coral Park Sr.; Journalism—Marcus Parramore from Coral Gables Sr.; Math—Gongqi "Gina" He from Palmetto Sr.; Music—Cathy Kim-King Ng from Sunset Sr.; News Media—Kemy Joseph from Homestead Sr.; and Speech—Clarissa Parks from Coral Reef Sr.

I would also like to commend the following honorees, who are my constituents and attend schools in my District. They are: Art—Charolette Jarrett from Dr. Michael Krop Sr.; Drama—Brittany Little from Miami Northwestern Sr.; Foreign Language—Dave Fils-Aime from Dr. Michael Krop Sr.; Science—Zachary Sandoval from Dr. Michael Krop Sr.; Vocational-Technical—Chynna Clayton from Turner Technical Sr. In a special manner, I am extending my commendation to Nicholas Nelson-Goedert from North Miami Beach Sr., the Social Science awardee, who is currently serving as an intern in my District Office.

There are other Silver Knight Honorable Mentions from my District: Business—Diana Augustin from Turner Tech Sr.; English—Dmitriy Rokhfeld from Dr. Michael Krop Sr. High; Foreign Language—Carol Toro from Miami Country Day School; Music—Drew Davis from Dr. Michael Krop Sr. and Trestiese Davis from Miami Central Sr. High; Math—Willedra Mosley from Miami Carol City Sr. and Kevin Pan from Dr. Michael Krop Sr.; Science—Genevieve Carvil from Carol City Sr.; and Speech—Rhyanne Carrington from Miami Norland Sr.

This group of accomplished young men and women represent the finest high school seniors around, and their individual and collective achievements give me comfort in knowing that the future of our community is in good hands. With earned scholarships they will soon be attending their respective schools of higher learning to once again compete and demonstrate their abilities and character in tackling the demands of a yet greater challenge. Bound by the same commitment to hard work and personal ethic, I am confident that they will bring to fruition their dreams of personal achievement and scholastic excellence in a manner that will benefit society as they go about spreading their contribution of good will as productive and responsible citizens.

Against innumerable odds that would have intimidated lesser spirits, and guided by their faith, work ethic and utmost discipline, these young men and women have genuinely earned their kudos as the 2006 Silver Knights. My pride and honor in representing them in Congress are only exceeded by my deep gratitude for all that they have done to uphold the honor and dignity of our community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall no. 151, I was listed as voting in favor of H.R. 4200, the Forest Emergency Recovery and Research Act. This was an error; I oppose H.R. 4200 and intended to vote "no".

H.R. 4200 is unnecessary legislation with significant negative consequences. It allows almost any activity, including timbering and roadbuilding, to proceed on an expedited basis with little or no environmental review and with little or no ability for the public to challenge a decision, under a broad array of circumstances beyond what most would view as emergencies. It shares many of the misguided goals and harmful effects of the so-called "Healthy Forest Restoration Act" of 2003, which I voted against.

Again, I intended to vote "no" on H.R. 4200.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF
JAMES E. SOMERVILLE**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of James E. Somerville, devoted husband, father and grandfather, WWII Veteran, and friend to many.

Mr. Somerville grew up in Cleveland, Ohio, where he learned at an early age the values of family, faith, hard work and community. Together, he and his beloved wife Phyllis raised their three children, Gregory, Peggy and Kathleen. His quick wit and friendly demeanor easily drew others to him. Mr. Somerville consistently lived life with a certain kindness and grace, and he was always willing to help out a family member or friend whenever needed.

Mr. Somerville's life focused on service to country, devotion to family and dedication to work. He served with honor and valor as a Sergeant in the United States army during WWII. After the war, Mr. Somerville focused on providing a safe, stable and loving environment for his family. He was a dependable and hardworking employee in the textile industry for numerous years. His devotion to his Catholic faith never wavered; he was a longtime member of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Strongsville. Although Mr. Somerville struggled with illness for many years, his faith and family gave him strength, and his kind heart and wonderful sense of humor continued to give strength to those who loved him most.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and remembrance of James E. Somerville. Please also join me as I offer my deep condolences to his wife Phyllis; to his son, Gregory; to his daughters, Peggy and Kathleen; to his sons-in-law, William and Tom; to his grandchildren, Brandyn, Jordan and Camron; to his sister, Eileen; and to his extended family members and many friends. Although he will be greatly missed, the kindness, humor and love that framed his life, will

live on within the hearts of his family and friends, today and for all time, and he will never be forgotten.

IN HONOR OF AUGUSTINE PEREZ

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Augustine Perez of the Northwest Postal Station on Northwest Highway in Dallas, Texas, which I am proud to represent in Congress. Mr. Perez's record of accomplishment as a letter carrier is truly remarkable. Very few carriers become members of the U.S. Postal Service's Million Mile Club. Only those carriers who have driven 1 million miles, 25,000 hours, or 30 years without a preventable accident can earn induction. While membership in this club is very exclusive, Mr. Perez continues to exceed these expectations, as he joined the club more than five years ago and is still delivering the mail.

Mr. Perez's normal daily routine includes 240 delivery stops with at least six hours of driving. Moreover, most of his delivery vehicles are without air conditioning in what is often a brutal summer Texas heat.

I salute Mr. Perez for his continued service in delivering the mail to the community, and I wish him many more years of great service to the Post Office and its customers. His dedication is unmatched and for this I express my sincere thanks.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM NUSSLE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5386) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes:

Mr. NUSSLE. Mr. Chairman, I rise to speak on the appropriations bill for the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies. This measure is the first appropriations bill to be considered for fiscal year 2007, and has reached the floor one day after this House passed its budget resolution for the coming year. As such, the procedure for bringing up the measure deserves a brief explanation.

Although the House and Senate have passed their respective budget resolutions, a final conference agreement on the budget has not been completed. Therefore, to proceed with the consideration of 2007 appropriations measures, the House has agreed in effect to ratify the levels in the House-passed budget resolution (H. Con. Res. 376) as the ones to be enforced in the House. This second con-

firmation of those levels was included in the rule for consideration of this bill (H. Res. 818). With the adoption of the rule, the budgetary levels established under the budget resolution will be enforced in the House as if the resolution were a conference report. More specifically, the appropriations bills will be limited to the budget resolution levels of \$873 billion; and any emergency spending will be subject to the procedures established in the budget resolution House-passed budget resolution.

This bill provides new budget authority [BA] equal to the subcommittee allocation, so is in compliance with the Budget Act provisions regarding consideration of appropriations measures in excess of the suballocation. Further, because this is the first bill considered under the budget resolution, it does not cause a breach of the budgetary aggregates, which would violate the Budget Act.

This measure provides for the resource management needs for our Nation, clearly a national priority. The bill, which is in compliance with H. Con. Res. 376, the concurrent resolution on the budget, provides appropriations for most of the Department of the Interior, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Forest Service, the Indian Health Service, the Smithsonian Institution, and the National Foundation for the Arts and Humanities, among others.

INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES

H.R. 5386 provides \$25.9 billion in appropriations for fiscal year 2007, which is \$4 million, or less than one percent, below the fiscal year 2006 level. The level is \$411 million over the President's request. The bill complies with section 302(t) of the Budget Act, which prohibits consideration of bills in excess of an Appropriations subcommittee's 302(b) allocation of budget authority and outlays established in the budget resolution.

H.R. 5386 does not contain any emergency-designated BA, which is exempt from budget limits. The bill reduces a National Park Service contract authority account by \$30 million—an account not subject to annual appropriations—thereby offsetting discretionary spending through changes in a mandatory spending program. The contract authority allows the National Park Service to enter in to contracts to purchase lands under the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965. If this provision were stricken (because it constitutes legislating on an appropriations bill) the measure as reported would exceed its allocation under section 302(b) of the Congressional Budget Act.

The second change in mandatory programs reduces the Coastal Impact Assistance Fund by 3 percent from 2007 to 2010 (\$9 million each year) and spends the money on the Mineral Management Service's Royalty and Offshore Minerals Management Account. The Coastal Impact Assistance fund provides infrastructure and environmental remediation grants to states with oil and/or gas production on Outer Continental Shelf waters adjoining their borders. As a result, transfers to states under the Coastal Impact Fund reduced by an equal amount.

As we enter the appropriations season, I wish Chairman LEWIS and our colleagues on the Appropriations Committee the best in maintaining their admirable pace of bringing bills to the floor.

In conclusion, I express my support for H.R. 5386.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5386) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes:

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in strong support of jobs and lower energy costs for the American people. The House Appropriations Committee correctly voted to take a first step toward opening more access to natural gas in the outer continental shelf. Natural gas is an affordable, clean-burning fuel that can be safely extracted without causing harm to the environment. But there are opponents of expanded access to this domestic energy source who are trying to strip language that lifts the annual congressional moratoria on natural gas leasing and production in the OCS.

I urge my colleagues to join Mr. Peterson and Mr. Abercrombie in defeating all attempts to prohibit America from taking this small, but important, step toward energy independence. I commend Mr. Peterson for his work on this important issue and for his persistence in bringing this issue before the American people.

America is the only country in the world that has a moratorium on off-shore drilling for natural gas. While there are vast amounts of this environmentally clean energy source available in areas far off our shorelines, opponents of lifting the moratorium are standing in the way of lowering energy costs for our farmers, chemical workers, small businesses and manufacturers.

Because Americans pay as much as 600 percent more for natural gas than other countries, American businesses are often at a competitive disadvantage when trying to compete with foreign businesses.

Our farmers depend upon natural gas for everything from irrigation to food processing to nitrogen fertilizer production. When the price of natural gas is high, that translates to more economic hardship for rural America. Unlike most other businesses, farmers are not able to pass along their increased input costs to consumers. It simply means less income for them and the rural communities that depend on an agriculture economy.

Natural gas prices account for most of the cost of fertilizers, which means that as long as we refuse to open up more of our natural gas reserves and lower the costs, farmers and rural farming communities will continue to suffer. Additionally, 21 fertilizer plants in this country have closed in the past 6 years because they were no longer able to compete. High natural gas prices are closing businesses and killing jobs.

Small businesses suffer when natural gas prices are high because they have to spend more money for heating and cooling bills rather than investments in new technologies or

better wages for workers. Instead of being able to sell their products and services for less, many businesses are forced to raise their prices. And in today's economy, many small businesses are often competing with foreign competitors.

Manufacturing jobs are even more at risk for leaving if we do not address the high cost of natural gas in this country. Over 100,000 chemical jobs have been lost over the past 5 years because of high natural gas costs. These are jobs that we should not be forced to lose. Americans deserve better than a continuation of an out-dated moratorium on off-shore drilling for natural gas.

I urge my colleagues to join me in defeating the amendment to strip language that would help make America more energy self-sufficient.

TRIBUTE TO MYRTLE BEACH INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL, WINNER
OF THE PALMETTO'S FINEST
AWARD**HON. HENRY E. BROWN, JR.**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the Myrtle Beach Intermediate School is one of four schools in South Carolina to have received the 2006 Palmetto's Finest Award sponsored by Carolina First and the South Carolina Association of School Administrators. This award is the highest level of recognition that a school can receive in the state and was presented for the school's accomplishments in the areas of student achievement, student leadership, service learning, school culture including physical environment, safety and relationships, communication and involvement with community, instructional methods, success interventions, innovative programs, use of technology and staff quality.

Myrtle Beach Intermediate School serves a population of 565 students, 60 percent of which received subsidized meals. The school has met Federal Adequate Yearly Progress requirements for the past 2 years, meeting 27 out of 27 subgroup objectives, and has the second highest number of subgroups in the district.

Myrtle Beach Intermediate School has received an Absolute Rating of Excellent on its state report card for the last 3 years and an Excellent Improvement rating for the past 2 years. The school has been recognized by the South Carolina Education Oversight Committee for closing the achievement gap among student subgroups.

Myrtle Beach Intermediate School has been distinguished as a South Carolina Palmetto Gold Award winner for student achievement for the last 2 years and is the recipient of the Superintendent's Award for Service Learning, the Exemplary Writing School Award, and the Red Carpet Schools Award.

Congratulations to the students, teachers and administrators of the Myrtle Beach Intermediate School for a job well done.

FREEDOM FOR ROLANDO JIMÉNEZ
POSADA**HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about Rolando Jiménez Posada, a political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

Mr. Jiménez Posada is a lawyer and Director of the Democratic Human Rights Center. As a pro-democracy activist, Mr. Jiménez Posada has committed himself to portraying the true horrors of life under the tyrant in Cuba. Because of his vigorous opposition activities, the regime fired him from his job.

According to Amnesty International, Mr. Jiménez Posada has been detained and threatened numerous times over the past years. On December 10, 2001, while taking part in a peaceful celebration to commemorate the anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, he and several others were beaten and pushed into police vehicles and then dumped in remote areas. Amnesty International reports that in July 2002, Mr. Jiménez Posada was threatened at his home after handing out copies of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Later, Castro's thugs told him that he would be imprisoned if he continued carrying out public activities in support of political prisoners.

Despite the horrific harassment and constant threats, Mr. Jiménez Posada never wavered in his convictions. He was arrested and thrown in the gulag on April 25, 2003. According to Amnesty International, he is still awaiting "formal charges" and a "trial."

Let me be clear, Mr. Jiménez Posada has been locked in sub-human conditions for over three years without "charges" and without even a farce of a "trial." Simply because Mr. Jiménez Posada does not subscribe to the lies and propaganda demanded by the communist dictatorship, he is locked in a miserable dungeon. Mr. Jiménez Posada is one of the many heroes of the peaceful Cuban democratic movement who are locked in the dungeons of the dictatorship for their beliefs. They are symbols of freedom and democracy who will always be remembered with respect and admiration when freedom reigns again in Cuba.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Jiménez Posada is languishing in the repulsive squalor of the tyrant's gulag because he believes in truth and freedom. It is detestable that at the dawn of the 21st century, and a mere 90 miles from our shore, honorable men and women are imprisoned in repugnant gulags for believing that all men have an inherent right to live in freedom. My colleagues, we must demand the immediate and unconditional release of Rolando Jiménez Posada and every prisoner of conscience in totalitarian Cuba.

TRIBUTE TO R.R. 'PETE' EBBING

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a valuable and respected

member of Michigan's business community, Mr. R.R. "Pete" Ebbing. Pete is retiring from the day-to-day operations of Detroit Edge Tool Company effective today.

Since July 1, 1955, Pete Ebbing has been instrumental in the growth of Detroit Edge Tool Company, a leading supplier of machine ways, rails, knives, and other precision machine parts to industries globally. On June 24, 1885, the company was incorporated in the State of Michigan and is now the oldest machine knife manufacturer in the world. During the first half of the 20th Century, Detroit Edge was a major supplier of industrial knives and associated equipment. However, in the early 1960s the company began to evolve and manufacture machine tool components such as hardened and ground, precision detachable ways and rails.

Throughout this evolution, Pete Ebbing was there working to ensure the company remained successful. The company's headquarters remains in the city of Detroit and has other plants in southeast Michigan.

In fact, Detroit Edge Tool Company has been in the Ebbing family for more than 80 years, spanning four generations. Two of Pete's six children, sons Ray and John, now manages the business together with a highly skilled and experienced staff of employees.

I have known Pete for nearly 40 years and am proud to call him a friend. Pete's dedication and vision for Detroit Edge Tool Company has service set the course for the next generation and I wish him luck in the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM KOLBE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, I missed the following votes because I was traveling with President Bush to Arizona:

H. Res. 818, on ordering the previous question, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5386) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes (#160). Had I been present I would have voted "aye."

H. Res. 818, on agreeing to the resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5386) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes (#161). Had I been present I would have voted "aye."

H. Res. 795, on motion to suspend the rules and agree, condemning in the strongest terms the terrorist attacks in Dahab and Northern Sinai, Egypt, on April 24 and 26, 2006 (#162). Had I been present I would have voted "aye."

H.R. 5386, on agreeing to the Weiner of New York amendment (#163). Had I been present I would have voted "nay."

H.R. 5386, on agreeing to Poe of Texas amendments (en bloc) (#164). Had I been present I would have voted "aye."

H.R. 5386, on agreeing to the Pallone of New Jersey amendment (#165). Had I been present I would have voted "nay."

H.R. 5386, on agreeing to the Beauprez of Colorado amendment (#166). Had I been present I would have voted "nay."

H.R. 5386, on agreeing to the Hinchey of New York amendment (#167). Had I been present I would have voted "nay."

H.R. 5386, on agreeing to the Chabot of Ohio amendment (#168). Had I been present I would have voted "nay."

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5386) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes:

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of the amendment to increase funding for the NEA by \$5 million and the NEH by \$5 million. Frankly, this is a modest amendment; I wish this amendment asked for an even greater increase in arts funding. It's astounding that this year the President will spend \$60 billion in Cold War-era defense programs, such as a missile defense system that doesn't defend against missiles, and yet each year we have to come to the floor to defend this minimal amount of spending. The amount we are asking for is little more than a fraction of one percent of the Federal budget.

This is not controversial funding. The NEA and the NEH are two of the best investments this Nation makes. The NEA distributes grants in all 50 states. These grants fund theatres, orchestras, dance companies, and visual artists that move us, challenge the way we think, foster dialogue, and help us to understand one another. The NEH is the largest single funder of humanities programs in the country. NEH grants help museums, archives, libraries, universities, scholars and documentary filmmakers allow us to understand our rich history and cultural heritage.

The cost-benefit ratio of this funding is tremendous. Each year, the arts generate \$134 billion in economic activity; arts organizations employ 4.85 million Americans; they generate \$89.4 billion in household income; and lead to \$24.4 billion in total tax revenues.

Not only do the arts and humanities have a positive economic impact, but they strengthen and build communities. They help revitalize our nation's cities, and provide venues for people from disparate communities to come together and share a common experience. Students who are exposed to the arts have higher test scores—in math and sciences as well as liberal arts—and have better attendance at schools and increased self-discipline. At-risk teens who participate in arts programs are half as likely to repeat their crimes.

Mr. Speaker, every year, my friends from the other side of the aisle try to slash funding for the arts. I just don't understand their thinking. This modest amendment is the very least we should do today. I urge my colleagues to support this amendment, and to vote against any attempts to slash funding from the arts that may be offered in other amendments.

HONORING SHANE REEVES AS
TENNESSEE'S SMALL-BUSINESS
CHAMPION

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Rutherford County's Shane Reeves as Tennessee's recipient of the National Federation of Independent Business' 2006 Small-Business Champion award.

Shane, a partner in the Reeves-Sain Family of Medical Services, comes from good stock. His mother, the former Carolyn Boatwright, got me off to a fine start as my seventh grade student teacher at Hobgood. I also enjoyed working with his father, Richard Reeves, a progressive voice for Murfreesboro for many years while he served on the Murfreesboro City Council and as the city's mayor.

Shane has been a strong leader in Reeves-Sain's success. With two locations in my hometown of Murfreesboro, the company has become the leading provider of pharmaceutical and healthcare services in the area. Since its creation in 1980, Reeves-Sain has grown from a small healthcare business into a multi-million dollar corporation, all the while maintaining its hometown appeal.

Reeves-Sain strives to deliver comprehensive customer care to all patients and to uphold Christian values in the workplace, and Shane has been instrumental in making that goal a reality. Shane has been the recipient of numerous accolades, including University of Tennessee's 1998 Co-Preceptor of the year award, Tennessee's 2000 Most Innovative Pharmacy Award and Tennessee's 2003 Distinguished Young Pharmacist award.

Active in the community, Shane chairs NFIB/Tennessee's Leadership Council and works with NFIB/Tennessee's SAFE trust. He also serves as a board member of the Rutherford County Chamber of Commerce and is past president of Leadership Rutherford. Shane serves as a deacon at North Boulevard Church of Christ.

I commend Shane Reeves on his award, as well as his numerous accomplishments and involvement within the community. I wish him continued success in the future.

CONGRATULATIONS TO PORTLAND
STATE UNIVERSITY, WINNING
EPA'S P3 AWARD

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, in 2003, the Environmental Protection Agency launched the P3 Award, a competition that focuses on the three components of sustainability: People, Prosperity and the Planet. Groups of undergraduate and graduate students from all around the country collaboratively design and develop projects that improve the environment, economy, and livability of their communities. These projects range from developing green tea polymers to treat cancer, to using bio-composite materials in load-bearing elements in buildings. All of the projects involved

in the 2006 competition were innovative and novel, but only a few won the P3 Award, making them eligible to apply for grants of up to \$75,000.

Among the winners is a group from Portland State University in Oregon. Michelle Guthrie, Candy Lai Kuen, and Kristen Lans designed an educational and interactive website called WISE—Whole systems, Integrated Site design for Education. The website, hosted by a friendly and informative owl, guides students through a multi-step process to improve the sustainability of their school campus, and ultimately, get them interested in improving the sustainability of their communities at large.

Portland State University has a long standing reputation for innovative and progressive thinking, offering programs that foster and promote sustainability, so it is no surprise that this award-winning project came from Portland State minds. The project, as well as the university community itself, serves as a strong example of the educational values we need to promote in this country.

I want to congratulate the project adviser, Pramod Parajuli, and the entire university community on this tremendous success. Most of all, I congratulate these women whose combination of talent and commitment lead to the development of this exciting and valuable project. I am honored by their service to our community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 165, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. STEVE KING

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5386) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes:

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of Congressman POE's amendment to open the outer continental shelf (OCS) to oil and gas exploration. Opening the OCS to exploration would expand America's energy pie. The Gulf of Mexico OCS has been producing oil and natural gas since the 1950s. Virtually all of the oil and natural gas produced from the OCS is from the Central and Western sections of the Gulf of Mexico. The 1.5 million barrels per day of oil from the Central and Western Gulf of Mexico OCS is equivalent to our imports from Saudi Arabia. Imagine if we expanded OCS production and could cut out

Saudi Arabian imports altogether. No more subsidies for radical Islamists who are intent on harming Americans.

Currently 4.4 trillion cubic feet of natural gas is produced annually from the Central and Western Gulf of Mexico. To put that impressive number into perspective, the undiscovered resources on the federal OCS, that could be recovered with today's technology, is estimated at 420 trillion cubic feet, almost 100 percent more than current production.

While the Central and Western sections of the Gulf of Mexico OCS have been the workhorse of oil and natural gas production, Mineral Management Service and the Department of Energy forecast that, without expanded access beyond the Central and Western Gulf of Mexico, the growth in deepwater production will not be able to offset declines in shallow water production for more than a few years.

U.S. energy policy has not sufficiently emphasized the importance of developing domestic oil and natural gas supplies which are essential to our economic growth and to our energy security. Supporting Congressman POE's amendment is the right first step in the domestic production of energy.

HONORING LIEUTENANT GENERAL JAMES RONALD HELMLY ON HIS CHANGE OF COMMAND

HON. STEVE BUYER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. BUYER. Mr. Speaker, today marks the change of command for one of the finest Chiefs ever to command the United States' Army Reserve. James Ronald Helmly, born 25 September 1947, to John James Helmly and Geneva Maxine Slover, grew up in Savannah, Georgia. Ron Helmly attended high school in Savannah, where he enrolled in the Junior ROTC program. He did very well academically in school and played football and baseball. Though he had an academic scholarship, he found he missed military structure (from ROTC) and took the West Point entrance examination. Circumstances prevailed that saw Helmly leave Armstrong State College and enlist in the Army in 1966, attending Basic Training at Fort Gordon, Georgia. He completed his Advanced Individual Training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, and transferred to the Infantry Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning, Georgia, because of the delay in getting a slot in the Engineer officer program. Following school, he received his commission as a second lieutenant and went on to complete the Basic Airborne course.

In September 1967, Helmly joined Company B, 3d Battalion (Airborne), 187th Infantry, 101st Airborne Division, at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, as a platoon leader and then went to Vietnam where he says the experience shaped the outlook of his entire life and gave him a fundamental love of soldiers. His Vietnam experience provided him with essential lessons about the need for good leadership and selecting people of good character and disposition, as well as professional preparedness in positions of leadership. He learned the importance of soldiers and leaders having self-confidence and training to standard. Helmly continued to serve on Active Duty from 1966

to 1973 in a variety of company- and battalion-level assignments, to include another tour in Vietnam with the 101st Airborne Division and command of an infantry company in Panama. It was during his time on active duty that Helmly met Maria Glasbrenner, the daughter of a retired Army sergeant major. They married on 6 March 1970, just before Helmly left for his second tour in Vietnam. They have two daughters and three grandchildren.

As an Army Reserve Soldier, Lieutenant General Helmly has held logistics and operations positions in the 87th Maneuver Area Command and the 81st Army Reserve Command (ARCOM). He commanded the 352nd Maintenance Battalion in Macon, GA, and the 449th Area Support Group in Forest Park, GA. He was also the Deputy Chief of Staff for Training and the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel of the 81st ARCOM.

He served as the Deputy Chief, Army Reserve, Washington, DC, from June 1995 to June 1999. From June 1999 to August 1999, he served as the commander of the joint task force conducting Operation PROVIDE REFUGE at Fort Dix, NJ. Until taking command of the 78th Division in May 2001, he was the Military Assistant, Manpower and Reserve Affairs (Individual Mobilization Augmentee), Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army, Washington, DC, from October 1999 to May 2001.

LG James R. Helmly was confirmed by the U.S. Senate for promotion to lieutenant general and appointment as the Chief, Army Reserve, March 21, 2002. He took command of the U.S. Army Reserve Command on May 3, 2002, and became the Chief, Army Reserve, on May 25, 2002. His promotion to three-star rank was effective on May 25, 2002.

During his tenure as Chief of the Army Reserve he managed the mobilization of more than 147,000 Army Reserve soldiers in support of the Global War on Terror. General Helmly increased Reserve units and soldiers' readiness by having developed a progressive and cyclic training strategy that prioritized resources and managed readiness levels, improved facilities, adapted training to ever changing battlefield conditions, and streamlined Command and Control of the Army Reserve Forces.

His military education includes the Infantry Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, the Command and General Staff College, the Armed Forces Staff College and the Army War College. He has a bachelor's degree in liberal studies from the State University of New York in Albany.

Among his numerous awards and decorations are the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit with one Oak Leaf Cluster, Bronze Star with Valor Device and three Oak Leaf Clusters, Meritorious Service Medal with silver Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Commendation Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters, Combat Infantryman Badge, Parachutist Badge, Army Staff Identification Badge and Ranger Tab. He was inducted into the Infantry Hall of Fame in 1996. General Helmly will continue his fine tradition of success as he begins his assignment in Islamabad, Pakistan, as the Chief Office of Defense Representative.

COMMENDING THE BOBBY DODD
INSTITUTE AND THE JAVITS-
WAGNER-O'DAY PROGRAM

HON. JOHN LINDER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, today there are roughly 45 million Americans with a disability, many of whom are forced to rely on public assistance because they cannot find or keep a job. Of people with disabilities, approximately 5.2 million receive Social Security Disability Insurance, 3.5 million receive Supplemental Security Insurance, and 1.3 million receive both.

By tapping into the potential of a person with a disability through a job opportunity we can help them to become taxpaying citizens who can help to power America's economy and strengthen our communities. I recently had the opportunity to visit the Bobby Dodd Institute (BDI) in Atlanta, Georgia, and was able to witness first-hand the power of employment for disabled individuals. BDI offers a variety of vocational services including employee development training, computer and customer service training job readiness classes and daily living courses.

For this reason, I salute the Javits-Wagner-O'Day (JWOD) Program. JWOD provides employment opportunities to Americans with disabilities by using the purchasing power of the Federal Government to buy products and services from participating, community-based nonprofit, agencies dedicated to training and employing individuals with disabilities.

The JWOD program serves 40,000 people with disabilities nationwide, and last year it generated approximately \$280 million in earned wages, and nearly \$1.5 billion in products sold.

In Georgia alone, approximately 1,000 people with disabilities earned almost \$3 million in wages last year as a result of JWOD. These numbers vividly demonstrate the difference that can be made in both the economy and the lives of Americans with disabilities. This is a program that truly makes a difference in lives of people with disabilities, and today I am proud to offer my commendation for all of these noble and inspiring efforts.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. J. GRESHAM BARRETT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that one of my votes yesterday, Thursday, May 18, 2006, as recorded as an "aye" but my intent was to vote "nay."

I ask that the RECORD reflect that I would have voted "nay" on Roll Call vote #168 (On Agreeing to the Chabot Amendment to H.R. 5386).

TRIBUTE TO MS. MARTHA R.
ROBERTS

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a wonderful educator who is retiring after 34 years of service to our Nation's children. Ms. Martha R. Roberts, principal of Lonnie B. Nelson Elementary School in Columbia, South Carolina, will officially retire at the end of this school year from the very same school where her career began.

Ms. Roberts is a product of Richland School District Two, having graduated from Dentsville High School in 1967. She didn't stay away long, securing her first teaching position after graduating from Winthrop College (University) at Richland Two's Lonnie B. Nelson as a combined fourth and fifth grade teacher. She excelled as a classroom teacher winning awards as Outstanding Elementary Teacher of America in 1975, the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development Award for School Mathematics Program in 1978, and Lonnie Bee Teacher of the Year in 1979. That same year, she took a position as the Lead Teacher for Lonnie Bee's Math Lab program that gives extra attention to students who need it.

The administration at Lonnie Bee recognized the talent they had in Ms. Roberts, and in 1983, she was named Assistant Principal. In this role, she coordinated the school's curriculum and utilized her classroom expertise to help guide other teachers. During her time as Assistant Principal, Lonnie "Bee" earned the distinction as a National Blue Ribbon School Award recipient.

In 1988, Ms. Roberts left South Carolina to pursue opportunities in the Chicago, Illinois area. She consulted first for Kishwaukee Community College and Shabbona School System. She later became principal of Shabbona Schools that served children from preschool (child development) through the 12th grade.

Yet, Ms. Roberts' heart always remained in South Carolina, and she returned in 1992 to Walterboro (South Carolina) High School. Two years later she returned to Richland School District Two in Columbia to serve as principal of Forest Lake Elementary. During her six years there, the school was a National Blue Ribbon School Award winner.

Ms. Roberts later transferred to become principal of Dent Middle School, the former Dentsville High School from which she had graduated, for one year before she retired in June 2001. Her retirement was short-lived.

Ms. Roberts was pressed back into service in June 2002 to serve as a principal trainer at Killian Elementary School in Richland School District Two. The following year, she consulted with the district on creating a comprehensive and effective school choice program. Then in July 2004, she returned once again to Lonnie B. Nelson Elementary School to serve as principal at the very school where she began her career.

During her busy career, Ms. Roberts found time to complete her Masters in Education at the University of South Carolina, and do post-graduate work at USC, The Citadel and Northern Illinois University. She has also raised her son, Chris, and is now the proud grandmother

of Chris and his wife, Stephanie's son, Chandler.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating Martha Roberts for her exemplary commitment to educating young children. She has demonstrated a tremendous talent and love that has helped nurture countless students during her 34-year career. I applaud her dedication to public education, and extend best wishes and Godspeed upon her retirement.

HONORING SGT. FIRST CLASS
ROBERT V. DERENDA

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sergeant First Class Robert V. Derenda, a brave American soldier who paid the ultimate sacrifice in his service to this Nation on a mission in Iraq.

A native of Cheektowaga, New York, SFC Derenda earned a degree in Education from The Citadel and a Chemical Engineering degree from the State University of New York at Buffalo.

After serving 4 years of active duty with the United States Army, SFC Derenda joined the reserves and worked as a drill sergeant in the 1st Brigade, 98th Division, based in Rochester, New York.

Comrades knew SFC Derenda as a leader and a mentor who shared his skills and experience so that others could serve and protect in the name of freedom. In fact, SFC Derenda's last mission involved the training of recruits for Iraq's military.

As a young boy, SFC Derenda walked down Candlelight Lane on his way to St. Joseph's School. On May 20th, western New York will pay tribute to this soldier and patriot by renaming that street "R.V. Derenda Lane" in his honor.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the residents of the 27th Congressional District and all Americans, I wish to extend my sincerest gratitude for the supreme sacrifice made by Sergeant First Class Robert V. Derenda, a courageous and noble soldier. He has served to protect the safety and freedoms that make this Nation great and his memory will live on for those who travel down "R.V. Derenda Lane" for generations to come.

CONGRATULATIONS TO LINCOLN
ELECTRIC

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Lincoln Electric, a manufacturer in my congressional district, for receiving the President's "E Star" Award for Exports. Lincoln Electric's export achievements are significant because it supports our economy by helping create jobs in Ohio and the United States.

The President's "E Star" Award is awarded for continued superior performance in increasing or promoting exports. Only previous recipients of the "E" Award are eligible. Lincoln

Electric was presented with the President's "E" Award in 1994 for its strong commitment to developing and growing exports.

Headquartered in Cleveland, Ohio, Lincoln Electric is the world leader in the design, development and manufacture of arc welding products, robotic arc-welding systems, plasma and oxyfuel cutting equipment and has a leading position in brazing and soldering alloys.

Lincoln Electric has approximately 3,000 hard-working employees in Northeast Ohio, and 7,000 nationwide and throughout the globe. Exhibiting its commitment to its employees, Lincoln Electric guarantees employment to its workers after three years of service. The company has not exercised its layoff options in the United States operations since post war 1948.

Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, May 23, 2006, U.S. Secretary of Commerce Carlos Gutierrez will present Lincoln Electric with the President's "E Star" Award. I am proud of Lincoln Electric, which since its founding in 1895 by brothers John and James Lincoln, has shown a strong commitment to Cleveland and Northeast Ohio. I praise Lincoln Electric and its hard-working employees and wish them continued success.

TAIWAN'S STATUS IN THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, with a population of 23 million people, Taiwan is a democracy and a global economic power, yet it is not a member of the United Nations. In January of this year a proposal failed concerning Taiwan's World Health Assembly observer status during the World Health Organization's Executive Board meeting in Geneva. I am concerned that with the outbreak of SARS and ongoing concerns related to the possible human-to-human transmission of H5N1 Bird Flu, Taiwanese membership in international health entities should be considered with a greater sense of urgency.

I urge the Administration to take steps to allow entry of Taiwan into all relevant international health organizations to ensure the best possible response to any potential future health outbreaks that could ultimately invade the United States and detrimentally impact Americans. Despite not being a member of the World Health Organization, Taiwan has declared its voluntary early compliance with all provisions of the International Health Regulations (2005).

Mr. Speaker, I urge the Administration to encourage key leaders of other nations to resume talks with Chen Shui-Bian as soon as possible.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I was unavoidably delayed and missed

the vote on the Inslee amendment to H.R. 4200, the National Defense Authorization Act, Roll Call 149.

I respectfully request the opportunity to record my position. Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call 149.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF MRS. SALLY FALKMAN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Mrs. Sally Falkman, upon the occasion of her retirement from teaching—an exemplary career that follows 30 years of outstanding service, commitment, inspiration and instruction on behalf of every child who was a student in her classroom.

Mrs. Falkman has dedicated the past 29 years of her professional expertise as a teacher at St. Ignatius of Antioch Elementary School. Her dedicated focus on shaping, growing and inspiring the minds and hearts of young children never faded or wavered. For 30 years, Mrs. Falkman instructed students in social studies and religion classes, teaching third, fourth and fifth graders, and has done so with grace, compassion and a gentle spirit, capturing the curiosity and imaginations of her students and the admiration of parents and peers.

Mrs. Falkman's exceptional work ethic, excellent rapport with her students and her colleagues and creative and enthusiastic style of teaching consistently captivated the children, guiding them to a platform where learning and discovery flourished. As new and advanced teaching technologies and advancements evolved, Mrs. Falkman regularly learned and embraced every new technique. But the heart of teaching—the respect, love and confidence that a teacher expresses to her students, will never change, and this vital element in a child's educational experience is the intangible gift that Mrs. Falkman consistently gave to every student.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Mrs. Sally Falkman, for giving true meaning to the words: teacher, mentor, guide and friend. Her chosen vocation of teaching will be forever remembered by her students, their parents, and also by the faculty and staff at St. Ignatius of Antioch Elementary School, where her excellence, compassion, kindness, gentle nature and true gifts for teaching and inspiring our children will be remembered always and held as a brilliant example for all young teachers to follow.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREER AND PUBLIC SERVICE OF JOEL CARP—SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES AND GOVERNMENT RELATIONS FOR THE JEWISH FEDERATION/JEWISH UNITED FUND OF METROPOLITAN CHICAGO

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the career and public service of Joel Carp.

For 28 years, Joel Carp has been an effective leader for the Jewish Federation/Jewish United Fund of Metropolitan Chicago, and the Jewish community as a whole. As Senior Vice President, his responsibilities include management of its Government Affairs Program, delegating the budget for social welfare programs, and supervising the State of Illinois refugee and immigration programs, as well as several homeless services programs. Joel's persistent dedication and devotion to social services has truly made a difference in many people's lives and in many organizations.

Joel has dedicated his life to creating public policies that provide quality, comprehensive health and human services for people in Chicago and nationally. He is a member of numerous local, state, and national professional and community service organizations, and has served on various governmental task forces, including the City of Chicago's Task Force on Hunger. His work at the Illinois Department of Human Services includes service on the Governor's Families and Children Leadership Sub-Cabinet. With his knowledgeable background, he has published over 30 articles on various subjects in the field of social work, social planning and resettlement.

Joel was the recipient of the Melvin A. Block Award for Professional Distinction from the Associated YM-YWHAs of Greater New York, and he also received the City of Chicago's Commission on Human Relations Award. His vision is credited as the driving force behind numerous projects that continue to enhance not only Chicago, but our entire nation.

Mr. Speaker, it is hard to overstate the impact that Joel Carp has had on improving the quality of life for thousands of people in Illinois and across the nation. I am proud to call him a friend, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing his contributions and wish him and his family the very best in the future.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF MS. VALRIE A. BENNETT

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Ms. Valrie A. Bennett who recently departed this world as we know it. Although we grieve her being taken from us we must not see her departure as a loss because she fought the good fight, ran the good race and completed her life's mission. A woman of true character gifted with an

endearing spirit, she was an inspiration and mentor to many in her life, including a very close family member and a dear friend and colleague of mine Congresswoman SHEILA JACKSON-LEE of Houston, Texas.

A matron of the family, she dedicated her life to keeping her family together and instilling exemplary values in those she influenced. Congresswoman JACKSON-LEE can attest to this because that same dedication has made her what she is today, a compassionate and honorable public servant.

Ms. Bennett was not only active in providing for those she loved in her own household, but she was deeply involved with the many institutions and people in my Congressional District in New York where she resided for almost 50 years. She was a prominent member of her community church in which she served as an Elder always welcoming strangers into the fellowship and assisting in serving their spiritual needs. She is remembered for her belief in and practice of fervent prayer.

With many years of experience connecting with young people in the community she has influenced my lives. Ms. Bennett has accomplished this through the use of certain outreach programs that get to the core of problems within our inner cities. Ingrained with the caring spirit that only a mother has, she was responsible for many of the great initiatives aimed at keeping young people off the streets.

With high admiration I enter into the RECORD a tribute to Ms. Valrie A. Bennett, for I know that Ms. Bennett's heart of gold has touched someone in the community; whether it is a person of youth, vibrant with life and spirit, or a person of age with greater life experience. All who knew her benefited from her active counsel and example. Even though Ms. Bennett has gone on her strong spirit and commitment live on in each and everyone of us. She will truly be missed.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES A. LEACH

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, May 18, 2006, I missed a series of votes because of a commitment to give a commencement address at Indian Hills Community College in Ottumwa, Iowa. If I had been present, I would have voted the following way: roll No. 160, On ordering the previous question and agreeing to the resolution, "aye"; roll No. 161, On agreeing to the resolution, "aye"; roll No. 162, On the motion to suspend the rules, "aye"; roll No. 163, Weiner of NY amendment, "aye"; roll No. 164, Poe of TX amendment, "no"; roll No. 165, Pallone of NJ amendment, "aye"; roll No. 166, Beauprez of CO amendment, "no"; roll No. 167, Hinchey of NY amendment, "aye"; roll No. 168, Chabot of OH amendment, "aye"; roll No. 169, Oberstar of MN amendment, "aye"; roll No. 170, Putnam of FL amendment, "aye"; roll No. 171, Hefley of CO amendment, "no"; and roll No. 172, On final passage, "no."

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CAMERON STAY

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Cameron Stay, a young man who exemplifies what it means to be a noble citizen.

Cameron, who is 29 years old, was recently involved in a life changing motorcycle accident. I had the pleasure of visiting Cameron while I was in Las Vegas and can personally attest to his courage and his character.

Cameron is a history buff, who graduated from Green Valley High School in 1994, and subsequently attended Community College where he earned a degree in criminal justice.

His strong work ethic and commitment to the greater Boulder City community serve as an example and an inspiration. Having met Cameron, I was struck by his magnetic personality and extremely friendly demeanor. Cameron is an enthusiastic and positive individual. As the eldest son, he has set a good example for his younger brothers and has always been a positive influence.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Cameron Stay, a young man who personifies what it is to be a civically minded individual and a good man. I wish him a speedy recovery.

TRIBUTE TO THE STANLEY F. ROMANOWSKI POST 6896 VFW

HON. THADDEUS G. MCCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. MCCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor and acknowledge the 60th Anniversary of the Sgt. Stanley F. Romanowski Post 6896 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars in Westland, Michigan.

On May 12, 1946, the founding members instituted this Post in the Gymnasium of Munger Intermediate School and dedicated its mission to serving the citizens of Wayne County, Michigan. Named after Sgt. Stanley F. Romanowski, a decorated soldier of World War II who gave his life for his country, the Romanowski Post 6896 courageously pays tribute to the deceased by helping the living.

Each year, the 6896 members of the Romanowski Post 6896 launch charitable initiatives to assist the needy, aid the ill, support the students, and recognize the educators of our community. Among the many notable programs, these veterans host the Christmas Needy Basket Program, which provides food for underprivileged families; a Muscular Dystrophy Drive; a Diabetes Drive; a Cancer Drive; a \$50,000 scholarship fund for students; and a Teacher of the Year program.

In memory of Sgt. Romanowski's birthday, members hold an annual December memorial service in remembrance of United States fallen veterans. This summer, the Romanowski Post 6896 will also hold the first monthly memorial service at Westland City Hall dedicated to Prisoners of War, Soldiers Missing in Ac-

tion, Blue Stars Mothers, and Gold Star Mothers. These deeds serve as a constant reminder, to ensure the bravery of our soldiers, the fragility of our needy, and the heroism of our fallen will not be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, in honor of his exemplary love for the United States and our citizens, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending these veterans for their bravery and in thanking the Romanowski Post 6896 for 60 years of loyal and unrelenting service to our community and our country.

RABBI BRIAN MICHELSON

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Rabbi Brian Michelson of Berks County for his service to the Jewish Community Center and surrounding community.

Rabbi Michelson grew up in the New York City area and went on to pursue a bachelor of arts degree from Franklin & Marshall College in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. After earning his BA, Rabbi Michelson received his MAHL from Hebrew Union College in Los Angeles, California and then his Rabbinic Ordination from Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati, Ohio. Recently, he completed a graduate certification in Healthcare Ethics from Rush University.

In 1998, along with his wife Holly and their daughters Naomi and Gabriella, the family moved to Reading, Pennsylvania where the Rabbi joined the Reform Congregation Oheb Shalom. Before moving to Pennsylvania, the Rabbi chose to help spread the faith in Melbourne, Australia.

Rabbi Michelson is extremely active in the community. He is the Chair of the Chaplin's Advisory Committee of the Reading Hospital and is also an Associate Chaplain for the health community. Additionally, he is a Board member of Home Healthcare Management, serves on its Medical and Professional Advisory Committee, and is Vice-Chair of its Ethics Committee. In his quest to pursue development of interfaith relations, the Rabbi is also a member of the core group for the Interfaith Hospitality Network.

When not working in the medical arena, the Rabbi is active in the Reform Congregation Oheb Shalom where he teaches adult education programs. He is also an instructor with the Reading Area Community College's Department of Continuing Education, where he teaches an Introduction to Judaism course.

Rabbi Michelson's philosophy of action is to simply do what needs to be done. When not spending time on inter-faith and healthcare issues, the Rabbi manages to spend time cooking, drinking coffee, sailing, and watching movies.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring Rabbi Brian Michelson for his outstanding dedication and service to the Jewish Community Center, the Reading Hospital, and the entire Berks County community.

RECOGNIZING ALS AWARENESS
MONTH**HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, this week I met with Steve Kennedy and Kyle Robertson, both from my home county of Jones County, Mississippi. We discussed ALS—also known as Lou Gehrig's Disease—funding and awareness. May is ALS Awareness Month and an opportunity for us to increase knowledge about this fatal, neurodegenerative disease that attacks nerve cells and pathways in the brain and spinal cord. When these cells die, voluntary muscle control and movement ends and patients in later stages are totally paralyzed, often despite sharp and alert minds.

Steve Kennedy's father, Dr. Larry Kennedy, is the president of William Carey College—an excellent Baptist university in Mississippi. Dr. Kennedy was diagnosed with ALS in July of 2005 and had planned to announce his condition in September, until Hurricane Katrina ravaged the school, destroying the entire Gulf Coast Campus and closing the nursing school in New Orleans. After shepherding the school through that natural disaster, Dr. Kennedy again put off his announcement rescheduled for December of 2005 when the college was presented with a generous contribution. Dr. Kennedy delayed his personal concerns again, so as not to detract from the news of the gift. He finally announced his condition in the Spring of 2006. President George W. Bush greeted Dr. Kennedy and recognized his sacrifice during his recent visit to Mississippi.

Dr. Kennedy is an example of a man facing a deteriorating disease with class and dignity and resolve. He reminds us that anyone can be afflicted by this condition which has no currently known cause, cure or means of prevention. Only one drug currently is available to even treat this disease and it only prolongs life a few months. During ALS Awareness Month, I am advocating greater research investments into ALS.

Every day, on average 15 people are newly diagnosed with ALS—more than 5,400 people per year. The average life expectancy of a person with ALS is two to five years from time of diagnosis. "With recent advances in research and improved medical care, patients are able to have longer, more productive lives. But we have much left to learn about this mysterious and deadly disease."

Mr. Speaker, I hope Congress will include \$5 million in the FY 2008 Federal Budget to establish a national ALS registry at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and to enact the ALS Registry Act. This will help identify occurrences of ALS, collect data surrounding it and examine standards of care. Promoting a better understanding of the disease will enhance the nation's efforts to find a treatment and cure. With studies indicating that ALS occurs at a greater rate in military veterans, I encourage the Department of Defense to investigate the causes and take appropriate remedial action to prevent the development of this disease among our fighting men and women. Now is the time for us to invest in seeking the causes, treatments and a cure for this disease.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5386) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes:

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to thank the Chairman and the Interior Appropriations Subcommittee for their continued support of the Florida Everglades in the Interior Appropriations bill.

This legislation includes funding for implementation of the Modified Waters Deliveries Project. This project is critical to Everglades Restoration, and will ensure natural water flows continue through Everglades National Park.

The Florida Everglades is a unique and precious ecosystem that must be preserved for future generations. Everglades Restoration is a long-term investment that will ensure the Everglades is restored and protected.

I am pleased that the Chairman included \$69 million for Everglades Restoration, which is so critical to ensuring continuation of this vital project. The Interior share of funding combined with the appropriations made to the Army Corp of Engineers in the Energy and Water Appropriations bill will allow restoration to move forward.

I thank my colleagues from Florida for their continued support of the Florida Everglades and Restoration funding. Additionally, I would like to thank the Governor of Florida for his steadfast support of Everglades Restoration. Floridians understand the great benefit the Everglades provide not just to our ecological diversity, but also to our economy, which is so dependent upon tourism.

On behalf of myself, and the residents of Southern Florida I am so proud to represent, I thank the Chairman and his hardworking staff for their support of this funding.

RABBI JOEL WEINTRAUB

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Rabbi Joel Weintraub of Berks Country for his service to the Jewish Community Center and surrounding community.

Rabbi Weintraub hails from New York City, was educated at Brooklyn College and then went on to get his masters degree and Rabbinical Ordination from Yeshiva College. In 1972, the Rabbi moved to Atlantic City, New Jersey, to take charge of his first congregation. In 1982, the Rabbi moved his wife, Shirley, and their family, sons Yossi and Yissi, to Reading, Pennsylvania, and the Keshar Zion Synagogue.

Once in Reading, the Rabbi became an active member of the community. He has taught at Alvernia and Albright Colleges, being the Director of Hillel activities, and facilitated Passover Seders at both education institutions. Also, in order to promote interfaith dialogue, the Rabbi was involved in the annual Kristallnacht program, spoke at local churches and schools, and gave tours of the synagogue. Additionally, Rabbi Weintraub used his dynamic personality to host radio and television shows and write articles for both secular and Jewish newspapers.

When not hosting Bible studies, Shabbat dinners, and teaching Hebrew School, the Rabbi enjoys being able to pursue his hobbies that include racquetball, swimming, and reading.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in me today in honoring Rabbi Joel Weintraub for his outstanding dedication and service to Berks county and the Jewish Community Center.

SALUTING CHARLES YOUNG

HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, today I ask Congress to join me in saluting the life and legacy of Mississippi State Representative Charles Young for his 25 years of elected public service. Charles has put his stamp on state's educational system as Chairman of the Universities and Colleges Committee. And his impact on his hometown of Meridian, and indeed across the state, as a seminal player in our civil rights movement, cannot be overstated.

Over the years, Charles and I have partnered on initiatives to benefit East Mississippi: economic development projects, educational improvement goals, and renewal and arts endeavors like the Meridian Grand Opera House. His faith and commitment to state and country have empowered him to make a real difference through service in the lives of his neighbors and in the fabric of his community.

Mr. Speaker, it is totally fitting that tomorrow night I will join other members of the Mississippi Delegation, local and state officials, as well as community leaders and activists in honoring Charles Young as part of the Carnegie Library Renovation Project. It is my wish to take with me the well wishes and congratulations of this Congress to this longtime public servant. I hope you all will join me today—so that I might extend that unity of national goodwill to him tomorrow—in saluting Representative Charles Young.

HONORING 125 YEARS OF
FIREFIGHTING HISTORY**HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Madison Fire Department in the Borough of Madison, New Jersey, a patriotic community that I am proud to represent. On May 20, 2006 the good citizens of Madison will celebrate the Fire Department's 125th Anniversary with a family picnic.

The Madison Fire Department was incorporated on May 23, 1881, "for the purpose of protecting life and property from fire". Prior to this time, the Morristown Fire Department responded to their calls for assistance. In 1882, the Firemen's Relief Association was incorporated "for the purpose of relieving disabled or indigent firemen," and the first hose cart was purchased.

The Fire Department was placed under the authority of the Borough of Madison Mayor and Council in 1890. After a municipal water system was established, a hose cart with 800 feet of hose was purchased for \$700.

In 1903, a new fire headquarters was built at the corner of Central Avenue and Cook Avenue. A Gamewell Alarm System was installed throughout the Borough of Madison in 1909 and the boxes were in use until 1990. In 1935, the Hartley Marcellus Dodge Memorial building was dedicated and occupied. Present day fire headquarters are still in this building.

Today, the Borough of Madison's Fire Department Chief is Douglas Atchison. He commands 14 paid and 20 active volunteer firefighters, serving 16,500 residents in a four-square mile area. Construction of a new fire and police facility has begun with an expected completion date of early 2007.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Borough of Madison Fire Department and all their firefighters, past and present, on the celebration of 125 years of protecting one of New Jersey's finest municipalities.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, May 10, 2006, I voted for H. Res. 802 but unfortunately, the computer did not record my vote. I proudly support H. Res. 802, which encouraged all eligible Medicare beneficiaries who had not yet elected to enroll in the new Medicare Part D benefit to review the available options and to determine whether enrollment in a Medicare prescription drug plan best meets their current and future needs for prescription drug coverage. Please let the record show that had the computer recorded my vote, I would have voted in favor of the Resolution.

Almost 80 percent of the seniors in my district have signed up for the Medicare Prescription Drug Plan. For the first time in history, seniors are saving up to 75 percent on their prescription drug costs, and constituents who are very happy with their plan repeatedly stop me. Most had a favorable experience when enrolling, and I hope that many others will join when the open enrollment begins again.

RABBI YOSEF LIPSKER

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Rabbi Yosef Lipsker of Berks County for

his service to the Jewish Community Center and surrounding community.

Rabbi Lipsker was born and raised in Brooklyn, New York. The Rabbi received his formal training at Yeshiva, New York and continued his education as a student Rabbi in Sydney, Australia. The Rabbi continued a long family tradition of dedication to faith and community.

In 1997, the Rabbi moved his wife Chana and their seven children; Chaya, Seldi, Menachem, Shterna, Sholom, Zalman, and Hudi; to Reading, Pennsylvania. The Rabbi believes that food, faith, and fellowship bring a community together and invites the local community to events such as the Lag B'omer barbecue picnic, the Shavuot Ice Cream Party, and the legendary Matzah Bakery program where couples from Jewish community join the Rabbi on a walking tour of Brooklyn's many eateries. The Rabbi also organizes and holds Chanukah concerts at the Berkshire Mall and the Chanukah on Ice Program for the entire community. The Rabbi does not just bring the community together for holidays, but he uses various speakers and programs to facilitate interfaith dialogue.

Teaming together with Boscov's Department Store, and the Reading Hospital, the Rabbi offers intercommunity relationship classes. Rabbi Yosef understands the importance of bringing the entire community together to learn more about the traditional Judaism and its role in everyday life. When not working in the community, the Rabbi volunteers at the Caron Foundation and welcomes Jewish patients at Caron, together with and members of the local community, to his home for weekly Shabbat dinners.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring Rabbi Yosef Lipsker for his outstanding dedication and service to Berks County, the Jewish Community Center, and the Caron Foundation.

BREAST CANCER ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH ACT

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, I recently met a young woman, a constituent, visiting Washington on behalf of the Los Angeles Breast Cancer Coalition. Stefanie LaRue, of Marina del Rey, was recently diagnosed with Stage IV metastatic breast cancer. This is the most advanced stage of the disease, where the cancerous cells have spread beyond the breast and surrounding lymph nodes.

Despite having just undergone treatment, Stefanie had come to Washington to tell me her story and to advocate for breast cancer research. She said to me, "I just want to do my best to be a voice for women with breast cancer." Her inner strength and grace in the face of a very difficult battle are an inspiration, and a reminder of the resilience of the human spirit. I deeply admire her courage, and the way she fearlessly allowed the world to see her beautiful hairless head!

Stefanie is one of 200,000 American women diagnosed with invasive breast cancer each year. What is particularly troubling about her case is that she is only 31 years old. She has

no family history of breast cancer. She is a vibrant young woman whose lifestyle prior to the onset of the disease was the embodiment of good health.

We know that certain lifestyles and hereditary factors contribute to the onset of breast cancer. But there is also troubling evidence that environmental factors, such as exposure to certain toxins, may affect a woman's chances of developing the disease. Common pesticides, widely accepted agricultural methods, and even chemicals in everyday household items may contribute to breast cancer. We need to understand these linkages better.

Understanding the causes of the disease is a critical step toward developing strategies for prevention, and ultimately, a cure. That's why it is so critical that the House pass H.R. 2231, the Breast Cancer and Environmental Research Act. The legislation, which was introduced by my colleagues NITA LOWEY and SUE MYRICK, will make grants to research the effects of environmental factors on the incidence of breast cancer.

After decades of research, there is still no known cause, prevention or cure for breast cancer. Every year, over 40,000 women die of the disease. Congress must do what it can to prevent more women from becoming a statistic. I urge my colleagues to pass the Breast Cancer Environmental Research Act.

H.R. 2231, THE BREAST CANCER AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH ACT

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to stand with the National Breast Cancer Coalition (NBCC) and the 3 million women living with breast cancer in the country today, and urge my colleagues to push for passage of the Breast Cancer and Environmental Research Act (H.R. 2231) by the end of this year.

Too many mothers, daughters, wives, and sisters are dying from breast cancer and we will not end this disease until we find out what causes it. H.R. 2231 would go a long way towards finding out what causes breast cancer and how to prevent it.

It is generally believed that the environment plays some role in the development of breast cancer, but the extent of that role is not fully understood. More research needs to be done in this area since it has been understudied in the past.

H.R. 2231 would authorize \$30 million per year for 5 years for the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences to award grants to study the relationship between environmental factors and breast cancer. The targeted research holds the promise for a better understanding of the causes of breast cancer, breakthroughs in prevention and treatment, and ultimately perhaps a cure.

Furthermore, this bill would create a new mechanism for environmental health research, and provide a unique process by which up to eight centers would be developed to study environmental factors and their impact on breast cancer. Modeled after the highly successful Breast Cancer Research Program, it would include consumer advocates in the peer review and programmatic review process.

There have been isolated studies looking at suspected environmental links to breast cancer. But overall, the issue of what causes breast cancer, and the association between the environment and breast cancer requires a collaborative, comprehensive, national strategy to study these issues. This bill makes that mission possible.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation and enact it this year so that we can get closer to a day when no woman need worry about breast cancer again.

80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
FOUNDING OF THE CITY OF OPA-
LOCKA, FLORIDA

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I want to bring to the attention of my colleagues the 80th anniversary of the City of Opa-Locka, Florida, which I am proud to represent in the United States Congress.

Home to more than 15,000 residents in Northwest Miami-Dade County, "The Great City" of Opa-Locka has had a long and colorful history, from its founding in the mid-1920s, rapid expansion prior to and during World War II and its recent efforts at revitalization.

The name Opa-Locka is a contraction of the Native American name for the area, "Opatissha-woka-locka", meaning a dry place in the swamp with trees. The area was developed in the early 1920s by aviation pioneer Glenn Curtiss and was based on the Arabian Nights theme with streets that have names like Sultan Avenue, Ali Baba Avenue, and Sesame Street. The Arabian Nights style is also reflected in the city's architecture, which features 105 original buildings with an array of domes, elaborate minarets and outside staircases in brightly painted colors built between 1925–28 during Florida's land boom. Officially incorporated in 1926, Opa-Locka today maintains the largest collection of Moorish architecture in the Western hemisphere and 20 sites are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Opa-Locka Airport also has a long and colorful history. In 1918, the Navy relocated a blimp hangar to Opa-Locka from Key West. In the early 1930s, a Naval Reserve Training Base was established here. Commissioned NAS Miami in August 1940, training in fighter,

dive-bombing and torpedo bombing skills took place at various times during the history of the base. In addition to serving as headquarters for the 7th Naval District, the station supported a naval air gunnery school, a Marine Corps Air Station, a Coast Guard Station, and a small craft-training center. The peak complement, reached in 1945, consisted of 7,200 officers and men and 3,100 civilians. During the early days of World War II, Opa-Locka's pivotal role in training pilots resulting in the airport having the unique distinction of supporting more take-offs and landings than any other airport in the world.

Opa-Locka today is a working community that is looking to the future and working hard to revitalize its economic and cultural base while maintaining its small town, close knit sense of community. City Hall, the old Opa-Locka Hotel and the original Opa-Locka Train Station have recently been renovated. Additionally, a new State of Florida Services Building and a variety of new business have located in the City in recent years, and recent interest in Opa-Locka airport holds promise for the future.

As the city begins its ninth decade, I congratulate its leaders and citizens and look forward to working with the government, businesses and people of Opa-Locka in building an even stronger, more vibrant community in the coming years.

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF BIRTH OF
KEMAL ATATURK, FOUNDER OF
MODERN TURKEY

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, May 19, to commemorate the 125th anniversary of the birth of the founder of modern Turkey, Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, a post-World War I revolutionary leader who demonstrated that Islam and modernity are fully compatible. His example provides instruction and hope for our own era.

Ataturk died at the young age of 57 in 1938. Yet, in a short period of time starting with the end of World War I, Ataturk was able to build a nation from the ashes of the Ottoman Empire, establish secular rule, and lay the groundwork for democratic development. His vision for his overwhelmingly Muslim nation

was dominated by two concepts: secularism and progress. In his words, "In an age when inventions and the wonders of science are bringing change after change in the conditions of life, nations cannot maintain their existence by age-old mentalities and tradition-worshipping."

Mr. Speaker, Ataturk's reforms covered virtually every area of public life—political, cultural, legal, educational, and economic—all geared toward bringing the new Turkish nation to the level of what Ataturk called "contemporary civilization." Some of the changes were monumental, such as abolishing the caliphate, recognizing equal rights for men and women, discarding the Arabic alphabet in favor of Latin letters, and adopting secular law. Others were seemingly minor, such as reforming traditional styles of dress and mandating surnames.

His leadership style was epitomized by the alphabet reform. A language commission he appointed endorsed the reform in 1928 and urged that it be phased in over fifteen years. Ataturk had a different time-frame in mind. He phased it in over six months, punctuating his decision with trips around the country in which he personally gave public instruction in the new alphabet. This reform has wrought a fundamental change in Turkey's outlook, as millions of Turks, schooled in the Latin alphabet, have turned westward for their second languages and the learning to which those languages are the key.

As a champion of women's rights, Mr. Speaker, Ataturk encouraged women to become doctors, lawyers, engineers, scientists, writers, and politicians. His credo in this regard was stated as a simple equation in a speech in 1926: "If a society of men and women is content to apply progress and education to one-half of itself, such a society is weakened by half." It is unfortunate that, to this very day, too many nations in the Middle East cannot grasp that easy math.

When I met Pakistani President Musharraf four years ago, I gave him a copy of Andrew Mango's authoritative biography of Ataturk. "Follow Ataturk's vision," I urged him, "and you will put Pakistan on the path to progress."

Mr. Speaker, I am convinced that this is the right advice for the leaders of every Muslim nation. With forward-looking vision, leadership, and determination in the mold of Ataturk, the entire region could expect a future of secularism, tolerance, democracy, and material progress.